926 Grant Ave
Rockford Ills
July 7/85

Mr Walter Deane

Dear Sir

Having myself gone over Trautvetters tracing of *Salix rotundifolia* I am prepared to appreciate at a glance the accuracy - "line for line" - of your copy - Many thanks for the kind favor which more than makes good the loss of my earlier sketch - I shall be only too happy to serve you in some way in return.

An all too brief visit from Mr Bailey when he was on his way East is recalled as my last meeting with a botanist - so you may imagine how few and far between devotees of this "Amiable Science" are out West -

Yours obliged
M. S. Bebb

SHOUT
SHARE
IT

926 Grant Ave
Rockford Ills
Jan 21/16

Mr Walter Deane

My dear Sir

After a tedious sickness – first time since I was a boy that I have been laid up for a day – and after a long but by no means uncomfortable period of convalescence here I am – writing on the arm of an easy chair before the open fire – with nothing to do but get well and precious little plus energy even for that! The best I can do for you now is to hang your letter on a conspicuous hook where it can not be overlooked and by & by when I am a little stronger, and the temperature of the attic in which I have my duplicates stored has ~~Raised~~ raised considerably from what it is this morning – it will give me pleasure to supply your desiderata. S. alba ♂ is not an American plant. if I can send you any specimens at all they will be from Europe - And yet have you noticed that S. alba-vitellina is commonly fertilized perfectly! By what?. Sometimes by S. viridis (= S. alba x fragilis) the male of which is common enough - sometimes by S. lucida - It follows that at any rate all seedlings of S. alba in this country must be mixed with something! And mixed they are until the confusion is ~~something~~ enough, to make a botanist despair of ever seeing his way through the tangled mess!

Isn't it queer how a plant once gotten into a popular Flora will stick there - Here is Salix viminalis for instance! ~~And~~ Even in Halsted's little Flora appended to Miss Youmans latest book it is selected as one of the few very common plants deserving a place in such a ~~volume~~ work and yet in twenty years experience I have never seen a U. States grown specimen - except those from my own Salicetum! ~~and~~ Indeed the only specimen I have from N. Amer was gathered (leaves only) in New Brunswick by Mr Allen. The truth is the plants will not grow to amount to anything under our hot summer sun. It will set out in very early spring and make a vigorous push of about six inches. Then the sun-heat will seem to act upon it like a persistent pinching in and for the rest of the season it will simply develop a tuft of deformed leaves at the tip of the earlier growth. I had several plants under cultivation at Fountaindale which in ten years ~~than~~ ~~in ten years~~ did not attain a height of more than two feet! S. Smithiana (= S. caprea × viminalis) grows well enough.

I will also hope - in due time - to be able to send you several autograph letters such as you desire. I have kept my correspondence - or rather to tell the exact truth my wife has kept it for me - so that out of the earlier portion I may be able to make some selections including names not already represented in your collection. Those actual working botanists were so few and far between even twenty years ago and every last one in communication with Dr Gray, that I apprehend my limited resources may be already anticipated -

If you should feel like making up a little package for me sometime of your best things - after your own judgment - 50 specimens or such a matter I would enjoy the acquisition I believe of the fresh material - and by & by make you a return in kind - My impression is that I have Spiranthes simplex from Canby and Parker only and would like more of it -

I had a letter on my table ready to send Prof Coulter at Crawfordsville As I do not know his Boston address will you be so kind as to hand him the enclosed -

My kindest regards to all the botanical fraternity by whom you are happily surrounded - Enviable associates!! I do not meet a real live botanist once a year - No wonder I've about got past the point of keeping myself steamed up ~~with so~~ running all alone -

Yours cordially
M S Bebb

Rockford Ills
Feb 19/86

My dear Mr Deane

Your little parcel afforded me all the satisfaction I had anticipated — with something more — a surprise. I had thought to reawaken just a bit the old-time enthusiasm with which fresh acquisitions from New England were wont to be received. but I was quite unprepared for Artemisia stelleriana! Why I had never even so much as heard of its growing at Lynn — Dear me! — I am getting out of the current that's evident. If I don't look out first thing I know I will drift into some stagnant bayou and there "rot" dull as the oozy weed". Many thanks for all the nice things you have sent me. I hope in return to give you a setting up in Willows. When the weather grows warmer and

I infer that Dr Gray was in hand part 1 of vol 1. Synop Fl. N. A. Is there any prospect of a new edition of the Manual when this is completed: or will he try to finish the Flora first.

I grow stronger, those old bundles in the attic will get such a dusting as they have not received in a year past.

I am glad Prof Coulter is overhauling the Hypericums - may he be rewarded with the consciousness of having done good work - and of there being lots more of the same sort left. - may he become an enthusiastic devotee of botany in the broad phases which connect so directly with systematic work.* I for one have had about all I care to stand of the "Pond Scums" and their "conjugal relations" - the "new botany" is a bore to me - the main facts and their significance I learned years ago - and a tiresome repetition with slight variation - is to *me* - well I won't say what - *Artemesia Stelleriana* is the fresh a reminder that I may be fast verging on old fogyism without knowing it.

My very warmest regards to all the botanical fraternity - yourself of course included -

Cordially

Bebb

* and the *Bot Gazette* get the full benefit thereof

P.S. Going down through a file of unanswered letters - that is what I am conscientiously doing this morning - I encounter yours of Jan 24th.

I would be glad to send you my photograph and to get yours in return - only I am just at present entirely cleaned out. Besides my last sitting dates so far back it might savor of vanity for an old chap past 50 - with hair growing conspicuously thin a-top - to continue sending that out as a picture of the veritable M.S.B. Au contraire I don't propose to make the case against myself too outrageously bad by facing the camera before the effects of my sickness have been overcome - so please wait awhile - I have no photos of the Gray vase and gladly accept your kind offer to send me them

My old friend Rev J. G. Blake once wrote me "I never hesitate to run in debt for plants" - but whether he would have included photos of Gray vase or not I don't know - Running in debt for plants in those days meant of course a matter of exchange -

926 Grant Ave
Rockford Ills
Mar 11/86

My dear Mr Doane

About a fortnight ago I felt the duty incumbent upon me as a member of the School board to inspect a new High School building which was nearly completed. Looking over the basement (which was as cold as a barn) I "took cold" and got a set back from which I have not as yet entirely recovered. I detest a person who is forever complaining of his ailments and yet I had even rather risk such a reputation than fail to offer any valid excuse for this long delay in acknowledging your generous gift of photographs of the Gray Vase. The pictures are very fine and give a much better idea of the artistic elegance of the work than would naturally be derived from the published figures. As my wife took possession of both cards instantly for her especial portion of the house. I feel that I am a kind of proxy anyway. Still we — or she — or I would express kindest thanks —

I may spend a little time away from home before spring — in hopes to recruit — but with milder weather you may look for some more tangible proof of my indebtedness

I have never had the pleasure to meet Mr Harper — but he has found his way straight to my heart by sending some most delightful collections of Willows. One of the regrets for things left undone this past winter is that I failed to write out an account of the White Water species — with notes based upon his observations & discoveries. Thanks for gossip from head quarters please continue — Cordially

M. S. Bebb

926 Grant Ave
Rockford Ills
May 23/16

My dear Mr Deane

Did the ball really rest with you? Well I'm glad. I was thinking I owed pretty much everybody a letter. I have had so much to see to those of those things which we do from a sense of duty - working our way resolutely through to the enjoyment, undisturbed, of the things which we do from sheer love of the doing!

I enjoyed your letter through and through. The touch of enthusiasm over botanizing at the Natural Bridge - the pleasure of your meeting with Prof L. F. Ward (and may I add the fine compliment so deftly interwoven ~~many~~ [illegible] I meant to do with my good humor) - and above all the account of doings at the Botanic Garden.

I am hoping to overhaul my Willow bundles in [illegible] the very week. So prepare to open up soon a lot of the [illegible] specimens collected years ago - good specimens are this now lacking the freshness and brightness of things so [illegible] arrange, such as I was wont to distribute when I did my honest, full share of collecting, and sent out the harvest at the close of the season.

I hope I may go to Suffolk this summer but am not very far sure. Certainly the chance of meeting you there will add to the inducements which be sufficient to outweigh considerations of prudent finance.

No! I am far from being well. I have a good appetite, sleep well o'nights and for the life of me I do not see why I should remain so shaky. There is some bronchial irritation which I suffer has not come to stay. Altogether I begin to look forward to a longer season of recuperation than at first entered my thoughts.

Yours very truly,

926 Grant ave
Rockford Ills
May 29/86

My dear Mr Deane

At length - after many interruptions I have a parcel for you, tied up and ready to go by express, either this P.M. or Monday morning. The selections have been made in the midst of so many distracting cares that I scarcely recall what I have put in but I hope some ~~things~~ of the specimens a fair proportion out of the whole number may prove ~~a~~ acceptable as an addition to your herb. Fearing you might have a surfeit of Violets I have taken the liberty to include a few other

P.S. I find on my table 1 of S. [illegible] specimens accidentally left out [illegible] [illegible]

those your western plants which if
not required to help out your
own showing from the species
selected please pass on to some
less fortunate botanical brother.

Please let me know if
the fifty reaches you found
in good order and please
gentlemen don't be at all
chary in comment and
criticism on anything that
merits attention.

Your article in recent
Bot. Gaz. - your valued contribution
to the little controversy which
you so kindly sent me from
the scene of your happy
botanizing ground of last summer
vacation.

[illegible] yours
[illegible]
[illegible]

926 Grant ave
Rockford. Ills
June 7/16

My dear Mr Deam

Carex Crus-corvi was a chance shot. To own up I had never collated your list of desiderata in numbers with Macouns Catalogue - Now that I do so I find a second species which I can supply but not in extra-fine specimens. C. Richardsonii - the plant was very rare - even in the early settlement of the country and disappeared entirely as soon as the prairie fires no longer afforded it a fair

open field in early spring.
Glad the plant pleased
you and don't feel
concerned because you have
heard the last from me!
To begin with I try to
cultivate botanical friendship
but have a perfectly intolerable
dislike for the fellow who
addresses an impudent note to
an entire stranger or a postal
card proposing to "Ex" — (thing
is too valuable to write out the
word) and asking then in the
strength of their desiring to
suggest such a thing you go to
work instanter and send them a
list of everything you have and
everything you want and pay
your own postage of course."
Oh I am an amiable fellow

I guess its a relic of the savage nature in
me delights in setting down on such chaps but

P.S. I have so long neglected my generic determinations of the [illegible] Alcidae. That makes a rather depressing impression on [illegible] I remember them after one when I go to look up [illegible] in [illegible] which I [illegible] The [illegible] not mainly [illegible] as I thought [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] I have only [illegible] the Pacific (from Mississippi Bay, Japan, many from European [illegible] are better both of S. antiquus and of [illegible] - [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] 28 (= [illegible] × [illegible], Calif.) which I [illegible] of the [illegible]

926 Grand ave
Rockford Ills
Aug 5/86

My dear Mr Deane

Years ago "Wells Me" was a familiar postmark and it comes to me now fraught with many delightful associations. In 1861 — dear me was it twenty-five years ago! when I was making my first exchanges with New England botanists I received many a coast plant from Wells. collected and sent by my old friend the Rev J. Blake. Everything was fish that came to my net

in those days but some of
his plants are just where
as they were then — Carex
[illegible] for instance.

Your collecting experience
down the river just and around
with so many curious associations
I am completely dumbfounded
haven't a word to say —
Finding plants in Hawthorne's
[illegible] in the Old Manse!
"The Concord River winds lazily
through the fine [illegible]
long reaches of meadow land and
through pleasant woods." All
right. I think of Thoreau and
"The Week on the Concord" of
[illegible] a passage in [illegible]

I read the Hawthorne description
through the [illegible] and I question
whether or not I ought to give
you a blowing up for
[illegible] right on [illegible] the [illegible]
[illegible] with "Carex Buxbaumii"
& bullata" "Utricularia vulgaris
and Nuphar". Is there some
treat here in the everlasting
fitness of things and if so
where is the incongruity? Why
should it — Carex Buxbaumii with
its uncouth Teutonic name
"abound in wet places" near
the old Manse — and yet the
association comes upon me like
a crude joke.

The [illegible] Nuphar I have
Coll. [illegible] — but the [illegible]

I like to discuss with you some day
a question which has troubled me for
[illegible] - Is a hybrid's [illegible] to be
made that intermediate [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] pollen therefore (to be [illegible])
as a [illegible] [illegible]? Does he know
that the progeny of these [illegible]
hold? There to the parent type or
to the [illegible] as [illegible] [illegible] the
[illegible] proportion. I [illegible] [illegible]
I [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] of [illegible] [illegible] of [illegible]
[illegible] the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] to [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] of [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] to [illegible] the [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] and [illegible].

I [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] I
[illegible]

Yours [illegible]

[illegible]

926 Grant Ave
Rockford Ills
Nov 9/86

My dear Mr Doane -

I was reading - only this morning in M. Aurelius Antoninus "From Alexander the Platonic [I learned] not frequently nor without necessity to say to any one or to write in a letter, that I have no leisure; nor continually to excuse the neglect of duties required by our relation to those with whom we live, by alleging urgent occupations" - How human nature remains [illegible]! - So it was a virtue which even an Emperor of Rome sought to cultivate even before the days of paper and the penny post. but to be too free with excuses for delay - I have nothing to plead but sheer carelessness - a disinclination to write which indulged for a few days seems an utterly inexcusable neglect - I know there is a letter of yours on my table now – which I read with delight – and ought to have answered a month ago – I'll take your last and "talk back." Glad my willows have been honored with mounting – and that you enjoy them –

"When did you issue them"? Winter 1880-81

"Why did you not include such of our willows as S. humilis discolor" &c Because I intended to follow up the 1st fascicle with others – I have material in hand for a 2d fasc. if I ever get it in shape for distribution.

"Are all the Nos European willows?" Nos 1 to 41 are American (though No 41 is of European origin) 42–69 are all European species – Two numbers (I forget now which numbers they were) do not appear in the original distribution – (a mistake between the printer and myself) –

"♀ or ♂ flowers are wanting in a number of cases" Yes! the two sexes not often not mounted even – but [illegible] – individuals – fls and leaves from the same shrub one sex only – If both sexes are represented it is under two numbers –

this explains a large proportion of what you have taken to be omissions in your set - For instance No 30 - S. cordata x petiolaris - only the ♀ plant was known to me at the time - ditto of 31. 32 & 33 - Sometime this winter I will overhaul my duplicates with your list in hand and I will try to report everything "present or accounted for" - At the same time I will do the best possible for Upsala from Mr Kennedy. When I know of any person really interested in Willows it is always a pleasure to me to impart what I have in the way of specimens to him - It is enough to know that the material ~~is~~ goes into the hands of an appreciative student. I gave up the Herb Salicum in despair - the 1st fascicle was scarcely out of my hands when

I wished it back to improve — the drawings are very crude compared with what I should make them now.

We are all interested in your Cambridge festivities — Fifteen to twenty years ago I was in Cambridge not infrequent but have not visited the place of late years — I remember the old town — and your mention of the Baroness Riedesel recalls a purchase I once made of "a bundle of old books" at an auction sale, paying a mere trifle, the package including her Memoirs —

Wife and I have just had our impressions of Cambridge and its social life of twenty years ago refreshed by reading the Life of Longfellow by his brother Samuel — Also Bailey's Symposium is admirable. It recalls the smaller of our old style ambitions — accustomed to nibbling around the edges of things to see how these fine young fellows go to head generations, make a stir in [illegible] and do so much. Do it so quick, and in so short a time —

I wish I could tell you a story about a dog that Dr Gray used to own — the one that received mention by Darwin — I don't know whether it is a story about the dog — so much as ^it is^ about a momentary embarrassment of my own — I must tell you sometime when I am not on the 5th page

The photo has not yet been taken —! I should remember you / and the autographs are packed away in a box. Let me see if I can recall names of old correspondents and out of them some you might desire and the others [illegible] for — Vasey. Chickering T. J. Hale. E Hall. Prof [illegible] Green — Porter Dr Eaton. S. H. Wright. Sartwell. F. [illegible] Edward Tatnall — Dr S. B. Mead. Prof C. W. [illegible] Canby — Rev J. Blake. S. T. Olney — H. H. Babcock Rev A. G. [illegible]. Dr D. Clarke — Patterson.

x x x I find it not so easy to recall names as it might be — since now as I glance at the line I notice the omission of Judge Clinton - Ward - Crathy - and so on -

I am tempted to throw this miserable specimen for a letter into the trash basket. only I am afraid I should do no better by trying again -

Yours very truly

926 Grant Ave
Rockford Ills
Jan 8th/11

My dear Mr Deane —

Your unique Christmas greeting was a pleasant surprise in the midst of a season of pleasant surprises. After the pretty picture has graced our mantel till we are familiar with it, I intend to consign the sheet to my herbarium — where it will illustrate better than any single specimen I ever saw the proliferous habit of Camptosorus.

I am hoping to do a little pottering over the Willows during this month and next — my "shut in" period of the year — What it will all come to I'm sure I know not — most likely nothing. It is not that we fail to achieve certain things — but as we come nearer to them they seem so much less worth while.

How mournful the word from Cambridge – I can not realize its full import –

Wishing you a happy new year – which in these days of utilitarianism is equivalent to wishing you every good thing under the sun

I am very truly
Your friend
M S Bebb

926 Grant Ave
Rockford Ills
Jan 9/07

My dear Mr Deane

All through the closing months of last year, I indulged myself in a fit of laziness. For a while at least I wanted to take life with all the nonchalance of a beggar. I was quite willing to absorb any amount of the pleasures which friends in the kindness of their hearts might confer and to quiet all qualms of conscience that might otherwise rouse me to an uncomfortable sense of obligation. You anticipate me in ascribing the present effort to the perennial New Years resolution. I am not going to be lazy and dilatory any more - What's the use of making a first class "good resolution" and discrediting it at the very outset by a mental inventory of possible shortcomings!

I was pleased to be remembered by you with a Christmas greeting -

Next week I begin overhauling recent accessions to my herbarium of lichens - selecting specimens - mounting &c. I never can study with any degree of satisfaction from material - I scarcely dare anticipate how much I may actually accomplish of work laid out for the winter - but I start in with a determination to "keep pegging away"; the very determination itself - I need gain trust born of more vigorous health and therefore bearing some promise of ultimate fulfilment. I even go so far as to project an amount of field work for next spring, away beyond anything I have done in several years past.

It might be in order for me now to enumerate promises made yourself just to show that they are not forgotten. But I had them in mind when I spoke in a general way of not daring to anticipate how much I might or might not actually accomplish. autographs (wrapped in a box photographs (not yet taken), desiderata (not yet selected but list hanging on a hook over my table) Oh I don't forget the mischief of it is I don't do!

How I should like to get down to Cambridge for a few weeks study - confined her augusted dome!

With the best wishes of the season I remain

Yours cordially
M. S. Bebb

926 Grant ave
Rockford Ills
Jan 12th /88

My, dear Mr Deane —

Suksdorf in the Insane Asylum! Is it possible! Pray write and *tell* me about it. It was only yesterday that I was arranging in my herbarium some specimens of *Salix Sitchensis* which he collected especially for me — to show the range of variation in leaf character —

Your letter gives some details of Dr Grays illness which other friends had omitted to tell me. As you are kept so well informed let me beg of you as a special favor that you report to me frequently — Alas! even before this reaches you the end may have come — *How* many there are — all over the country — waiting for and dreading the final announcement_

I shall have some Salices for you - one of these days - on easier terms than any one of the three you suggest_ and I remember the autographs too every once in a while - always with a twitching qualm of conscience!_

I have gotten out of touch with the working botanists somewhat_ all my own fault and I miss the stimulus of frequent interchange of letters and specimens - but I keep promising myself month after month - year after year - that I will shortly turn over a new leaf. I have mistaken the ability to criticise the work of others as evidence of power on my own part to do something better_ "Did you ever get left (as the schoolboy of the day puts it) in just this way?"

My paper warns me to stop - Cordially your friend
Bebb

926 Grand Ave
Rockford Ills
Jan 29th/88

My dear Mr Deane -

I thank you for your frequent bulletins and especially for your interesting - really interesting letter of the 20th inst. Your Fathers study must be a good place in which to write letters - may you frequently find yourself ensconced therein. I have almost nothing to say in response to the painful burden of your story - It is something to be received with sympathetic silence - I will write again soon - this only as a word of thanks and acknowledgement ~~recognition~~ of your kindness -

I must tell you how

now I am to fulfilling
the promise about autographs -
. A few days ago I brought the
box of old letters down from
the attic — There is lots of
them and they are not in
good order — To be candid
I have preserved my
correspondence thus - as fast
as letters were answered they
were thrust into a certain
drawer in my library table -
When this got so full that it
could no longer be pulled out
- or once pulled out could not
be pushed in again - one of
two things took place - Sometimes
my wife - good orderly soul
that she is would take the
contents. sort it all over and
arrange the letters alphabetically
by authors - But failing in
this service I myself would
make one grand tie up of
the whole business - And so

I find running on through years there is not any uniform method of arrangement - Mrs B and my two daughters at home have taken mercy on me and promised to help at our grand effort in the ~~to~~ arrangement of the whole mass in folios - I very soon found when I came to look for letters to send you that there was a choice - Some were quite characteristic - whilst others might be mere business notes as it were - and that I could make no satisfactory selection without having all together from which choose -

In very great haste

Yours

A Bell

926 Grand Ave
Rockford Ills
Feb 8th/88

My dear Mr Deane

I hand you herewith the autographs - such as they are - mentioned in my last. Please tell me what ones prove new to your collection - The Catalogue is almost useless - I thought after I got started on it that it would have been better to leave you to make any inquiry that you might wish - concerning some of the more obscure women botanists whose names appear on the list.

My tailor has always made two pockets on the hips of my pantaloons - I am too old perhaps to acquire new habits making them useful - I carry no revolver and have a time honored place for my handkerchief - But I have just learned what to do with them

and I find they are mighty convenient
I pitty people that don't know how to
use hip pockets. In one I keep a
whole bunch of blank tickets.
No matter what I am doing, if it
pops into my mind to ask some
friend a thousand miles off a
question. I out with a ticket, make
a memorandum of the question and
slip it in the other pocket. So
now when I sit down to write to
you I go over the accumulation
and find this which read as
follows "Deane Ask to refer to Salix
Cutleri Tuck Sillim Journal 45 p 26 What
reasons there given for discarding
the old name S. Uva Ursi Pursh - please
copy anything likely to be useful"
2 of Deane S. arctica. Why does
Andersson write Pallas rather than
R. Br. Please copy for me description
given by Brown [illegible] Bot. of Ross Voyage
Vol 2 p. 194 - date of publication. Also please
copy Pallas Fl Ross 2. p 86. date of
publication - Also please trace if not

I have been looking for a letter from you for several days - People who are generous and competent in the matter of writing letters beget expectation on the part of friends which are altogether unreasonable - We come to feel ourselves quite agrieved in fact if letters dont come just as easily as the air we breathe -

I have just written to Mr Watson - a kind of mute reaching forth of the hand *in* sympathy as it were - How unutterably lonesome that work room must be to him with the masters chair empty -

Yours ever

M. G. Bell

too much trouble Ledebours Fig Icon Fl Ross. Tab 460" – By this time I fancy you are ready to curse my ingenuity in finding a use for like pockets – But seriously I am bothered about L. arctica and would be very glad of your help – Take your time. There is no hurry. I have few books that help – only Anderssons in fact. There is a plant common on the coast of Labrador, Hudsons Bay &c which may be rightly referred to L. arctica then again it may not – or at any rate it seems a good variety – I will send you specimens by & by. Anything that you can turn up in the library of the Gray Herbarium that was ever written on the subject will be very gratefully received. There may be some fine illustrations of Greenland forms &c – (To save you needless trouble I must add that Trautvetters paper in Mem de la Soc Des Natur de Moscou is not to be found in this country!)

Feb 12 - 1888.

926 Grand Ave
Rockford Ills
Feb

Dear Mr Deane

My thoughts still keep recurring to the sad news from Cambridge but it is not of this that I would write - I hope for a letter from you tomorrow. I have been engaged all day in an almost mechanical work and I am about to write a mechanical letter - No I ought not to say just that! Have finished arranging my letters from botanical correspondents yesterday and today I have gone over the lot and selected 87 for you - Of course I passed many names that I knew you would have already represented in your collection - and among these some of the very best such as Gray, Watson - Coulter. Pringle Ward - &c - As it is I have no doubt ~~sent~~ selected many a foredestined addition to your trash basket - but I send not always tell just where to draw the line. As the package weighs over a pound it will probably go by express cheaper than by mail, at letter rates, so I will keep it a day or so and put in a little Willow concerning the identity of which I am going to ask your aid in determining - some references not within my reach &c -

I would include a number of things only now that I have revived my interest in the Salices by several days steady work - worked up an interest in the most literal sense - I am about determined to go on and issue another fascicle of Willows - if for nothing else than to honestly carry out the promises on my part under which several friends have contributed specimens for distribution - and - in modesty shall I say it - to show that I know something more about the things than I did ten years ago -

Yours cordially
M S Bebb

926 Grand Ave
Rockford Ills
Feb 20/88

Dear Mr Deane -

If I had only known the work you were engaged upon before it neared completion I would have suggested to you the expediency of pursuing the American Botanist and writing him - a letter.

I enclose autographs of Goodale - Watson and Dr Gray - I never corresponded much with Goodale - and as you will see the letter I enclose dates away back to a time when he had just received his degree of M.D.

From Mr Watsons many communications it was difficult to make any satisfactory selection. He has used postal cards freely and in the main written [illegible] in reply to purely technical questions which I had submitted – save a few letters of sympathy or congratulation which of course I do not like to part with – It was hard too – to draw the line on Dr Gray's correspondence – What was really bright and in a good degree personal I could not spare – I throw one postal card that is A Gray all over – Here is a facsimile

Bravo, Excellent is M. S. B.
in B. G. fr March
A. G.

The abominable assortment of weather we have been having this winter has about used me up –

Nice letter from Ward a few days ago – expressing a hope that we might meet at Cleveland next summer. I should enjoy that. but res angusta domi will most likely settle the question

Cordially – Bebb

926 Grand Ave
Rockford Ills
Mar 6/88

Dear Mr Deane

I thought I had cautioned you against going off on any "wild goose chase" after Mem de la Soc des Natur de Mosc — There is only one copy of the work in the U.S. that in the Congressional Library — and of this vol 8 is missing! However I am just selfish enough to feel rather comfortable than otherwise over the slender chance that after all you may be successful in your quest — How delighted I should be — for there are lots of things in that paper of Trautvetters that I would like to know more about —

I am still pegging away at the Salices with encouraging success. A revision of the Lanatae

group which I have on the stocks
I feel rather proud over — Since
the first publication of the three
American species in the Fl. Bor. Amer.
not a thing new has been
made known concerning them —
and now I have quite a
little gathering together of fresh
information — much about S.
Hookeriana — rediscovery of
S. Barrattiana (known heretofore only
from Drummond's coll.) and a new
var. for S. Richardsonii —

Cordially
Bebb

UNITED STATES

POSTAL CARD.

ONE CENT

NOTHING BUT THE ADDRESS TO BE ON THIS SIDE.

Mr Walter Deane
5 Brewster Pl
Cambridge Mass

When you come to looking up the literature of S. arctica for me – no hurry – please copy the description of S. arctica β buxifolia Ledeb. Fl. Ross. 3. 669.

Cordially,

Bebb

926 Grant Ave
Rockford Ills
March 23d/88

My dear Mr Deane -

We will not breed discouragement by emptying the right hip pocket again too soon! If you will kindly copy for me now and then some paragraphs from a rare or costly book in the library - beyond my reach - or send a tracing of a figure and so on - it will be a great help to me and I shall be only too happy to render any service in return within my ability. Willow lore is a small affair - but it is scattered through lots of books which are inaccessible to the student west of the Alleghenies -

In a little while now I shall have to put the Salix bundles on the shelf till next winter - my time and thought being demanded in other directions than that of quiet indoor study - Still I shall hope to keep something going for "wet weather work" I have prepared for the Gazette a series of unpretentious papers entitled "Notes on North American Willows with a description of new or imperfectly known species" - which will appear soon - I have them all on hand still "in the cooler" - waiting to see how they will bear the test of being half forgotten and then re read -

Your paper in the Bulletin is an admirable sketch of Dr Grays life - No one who has not himself seriously undertaken to compress the leading events of a life into a smoothly flowing account of a few pages length can realize the amount of twisting and turning - -erasing - interlining - that has gone into the paragraph that reads so easily - A freehand sketch will betray a rough line quicker than the elaborated picture full of details

I loaned the Bulletin - containing your contribution to our High School Principal - who came to me for material to help him out in an Asa Gray memorial exercise or something of the sort -

It is a queer freak - Morong's enterprise! However as you say he is enthusiastic and torpid and I should judge a man who would rust out faster than he would wear out - By-the-way in behalf of an old class mate of his I would like to ask if Mrs Morong is still living?

My photo is no-"where" as yet - but it will be located "one of these fine days". I have quite a little project in mind - as to the use I shall make of it - which were better mentioned after than before sending - so I am not likely to forget -

I have been twice married - My first wife died a long time ago - while I was living in Washington two or three years later I married a Rhode Island girl - one of the Holyoke Sisterhood - and since then have had an uninterrupted - or scarcely interrupted - flow of happy fortune - more than I honestly deserve - This apropos of your query about the daughters - I had three children by the first Mrs Babb and taking my whole family as they run there is a curious *alternation* of sex - thus ♂ ♀ ♂ ♀ ♂ ♀ ♂ - here the spell is broken and there is a dull monotony of ♂ ♂. There are six at home - of which Nina is the oldest - (20,) and Frank (8) the youngest -

Now after this burst of confidence may I ask if you take a joke easily if it runs against yourself - My *wife* resents the closing words of your last letter "Give my warmest regards to your wife and daughter - *Perhaps you have several*" - No I have only *one wife* - three daughters -

Cordially
Babb

926 Grant Ave
Rockford Ills
March 29th/88

My dear Mr Deane

I can't say ~~that~~ I like it! I happen to be on the School Board for this little city and when I opened your letter I was sure I had a communication in hand from some book agent— I can not disabuse my mind of a disagreeable impression that somehow a circular or some other such food for the waste basket is trying to palm itself off as a letter from my best of correspondents Walter Deane— If you are threatened ~~with~~ with permanent paralysis I'll excuse you— if not please write me from an old fogy with an overweaning estimate of the personal influence carried in pen lines -

Yes I received Mrs Gray's Memorial of her husband - I share your appreciation of the tribute delivered by the Rev Alex McKenzie - It is a working over and reincorporating of the old materials - but how gracefully it is done - and what a fresh ~~and~~ ~~[illegible]~~ ~~spirit~~ spirit pervades the whole effort -

And speaking of Memorials what a foolish waste of money - really I ought not to say it - but can not after all take back the words - we have in the Engelmann memorial volume - It is sumptuous - splendid - but how is it going to benefit anybody! The very persons who receive it are fellows who already possess all of Engelmann's works of any importance, and I understand there is scarcely a bare one hundred copies for sale beyond those distributed to the very persons who do not need the volume - If rich men would only spend their money ~~and~~ in furthering the cause of science in its own way - not theirs - how much better it would be!

If you just would make a vacation trip to Rockford - My!!! I get so tired working along all alone - with a sneaking suspicion that my neighbors regard me as having a screw loose somewhere - with only the satisfaction *per contra* that I am "supposed to be connected in some way with the Government."

I await with impatience the arrival of your *excerpts* relating to Salix Arctica -

Cordially

Bebb -

926 Grand Ave
Rockford Ills
April 1/08

My dear Mr Deane

I detest this paper but it is all I have at hand - and even this is hooked from the boys school supplies!

So long as it is the medium for the communication of such happy breezy letters as the one before me I take back all my aspersions thrown on the type-writer.

My especial acknowledgments are due first of all to your sister for the minutely faithful tracing of Hedebours Tulip window - When I observe the care with which a repetition of little detail has been reproduced throughout I blame myself for not specifying for instance care in reproducing a single ornament - after that only a freehand outline - to be filled in my imagination - I will mount the drawing on a sheet of thick paper and it will go in with specimens of S. arctica - and a pretty extensive accumulation of various sketches of my own - transcriptions &c such as go to make up the working material of an obscure botanist living out on an Illinois prairie a thousand miles from a good reference library.

Your notes - transcriptions &c are very helpful - and will be more so when I get down to dead in earnest study of the species to which they relate - Anderssons reasons for discarding S. Uva ursi Pursh are more _flimsy_ than I anticipated - That question admits of clear settlement -

Now I wonder if I can tell you what I see in the other - without making the story tedious - Bear in mind then if that S. arctica Pallas - the older name and Salix arctica R. Br. the more recent publication - are now recognized as _two species_ - that is the plant of Pallas is not the _plant_ of Brown though the two are nearly related - Ledebour regarded the two as of one species - hence he was quite right in taking the older name. S. arctica Pallas - But Andersson does not so regard them but instead of retaining the old name for the plant which first received it he calls _that_ S. Pallasii And. n. sp. - and then S. arctica R. Br. (not the plant of Pallas mind you) he writes down _S. arctica_ Pallas. All this is very clear from the description and certain internal evidence - For instance Pallas says of his type specimen "In plaga arctica muscosa uda secundum Sinum Obensum et versus glacialem Oceanum legit hanc speciem Amicus Sujef."

Now we turn to Andersson and

read "Specimina a Sujef inter Obim fl. et mare glaciale in herbario Pallasii S. arctica inscripta vidi"

Here we have the authors statement that he had seen the very specimen collected by "Sujef" upon which S. arctica Pallas was founded in the herbarium of Pallas - You would say that was the type of S. arctica Pallas wouldn't you? - There you'd be mistaken - It is cited by Andersson under his S. Pallasii - Now I don't believe in restoring the name to its original significance at the expense of tearing up anything so rooted in the science as S. arctica R. Br - For mind you if we accept S. arctica Pallas that name belongs to another plant and our time honored S. arctica is left out - in the cold - So my present impression is that we ought to keep S. arctica R. Br even at the expense of violating

the rule of rigid adherence to
priority of nomenclature - But while
we are seeking a name for the
original S. arctica we need not
come down to our own day -
Two or three - maybe more - names
antedate Andersson's - _S. crassijulis_
is perhaps the best - one of Trautvetter's

I have Hook & Arn. Bot. Beechey
Voy. - but am sorry to say that
the Fl. Bor.-Amer at $40 - oversizes
my pile - By the way please
send me _the first opportunity you
get_ - all that Hooker has to say
about Salix Uva Ursi - My recollection
of the matter is that the species
is dismissed with a few lines

I must tell you something
about Morong - in one sense it is
much to his credit - and it will
interest you anyway, - Mr Taylor
a lawyer of this city was Morong's
class-mate at Amherst - He says that
Morong was at that time engaged

to one of the noblest women he had ever known - grandly beautiful - sincere - devoted and as earnest and wholesome in every way as she was strikingly beautiful - Morony was a ~~[illegible]~~ southerner - drank recklessly - and was so drunk the day he graduated that he could scarcely stand upon the platform - The girls friends besought her to break the engagement - and she replied "I will either save him or lose myself" - and added Mr Taylor "it is almost the only instance I call to mind - in my own personal experience - where a woman has taken such a desperate risk and won"

You ask my profession - At present I believe I am down in the directory as a "retired farmer" whatever that may mean - It is too long a story to begin on the 7th page - For a number of years I carried on extensive farming - In connection with my father and brother 5000 acres - It was a life of care - and necessarily our immediate neighbors were not congenial - I came here to send my children to school and to give them social advantages - Wife and I found very soon that we carried with us into the country - a something - which, make the ~~house~~ home life all that it could be made, - was still beyond our ability to impart - Manners must be learned by association with people of refined manners - and so on -

I read the story of your life with a quiet, serene satisfaction - In all the hurry and greed - all the driving force of this nineteenth century - it is a relief to think of such a career - "Every ship is romantic" but the one we sail in" and I remember Emerson has some very unromantic things to say about school teachers - but there on the other side there's my friend Babcock - gone to his reward - what a perfect gentleman! scholarly, refined - - and he did delight in teaching boys! I wish you had known him - He taught somewhere near Boston before he came to Chicago -

Cordially

M L Bell

P. S. Just now in putting your notes on S. Cuthbert in place I find I have already a transcript from the Hora Bre- Aberd concerning S. Ursa Ursi - so you need not mind -

926 Grand Ave
Rockford Ills
April 22/18

My dear Mr Deane -

Sorry about this Salix arctica muddle - I wrote carelessly - You may have had occasion to observe that I do occasionally (?) do this sort of thing - Let's try again - Pallas first used the name S. arctica - there is no question about that - subsequently R. Brown applied the same name to another species - Ledebour regarded the two as of one species hence so far as he is concerned the use of the S. arctica Pallas as the oldest name is perfectly legitimate - But Andersson and all botanists of the present day regard the two willows as distinct species - Now it seems there can be no question about the plant of Pallas since his type specimen is still in existence If there is any such species as S. arctica Pallas (as Andersson writes it) then the specimen upon which S. arctica Pallas was founded is the type of S. arctica. Isnt that plain - Now what does Andersson do He makes a S. Pallasii out of S. arctica Pallas. which was all well enough. but after he had done this the S. arctica which remained is the S. arctica of Robt Brown and not of Pallas - If there is any such species as S. arctica Pallas the be recognized it is the equivalent of S. Pallasii and not the equivalent of S. arctica R. Brown — The real blunder of Andersson is in giving the S. arctica Pallas another name and yet in retaining the name afterwards for a species to which Pallas himself did not apply it —

S. arctica Pallas = S. Pallasii And. DC Prod

S. arctica R. Brown — not of Pallas

Andersson was queer in the use of names. He seemed to stick them here and there to suit his fancy — imagining vainly that they would stay stuck! Not a single one of his innovations has been accepted in either Europe or America — One of his notions

was that he had a perfect right
to give a new name (with "Anders"
written after it of course) to any
new combination of old material —
For instance S. livida and S. rostrata
were united under the name of "S.
vagans" — S. lasiandra and S. Fendleriana
under "S. arguta" — and so on —

I "take heed" — I have been
waiting, for several years to
see if I wouldn't grow young
looking again — but its no use —

— I am not studying botany
just at present. I am building
a lapstreak boat — and every evening
I am so tired that I just sit
by the fire and doze until bed time
may be time which is 8 o'clock!

I read with interest what you
wrote of Mummy — Dear me — If I had
for the taste a warm bath and a cold
bath in succession I should want the
cold one first! cordially

Bebb

926 Grant Ave
Rockford Ills
May 30th/88

Dear Mr Deane -

If you will be patient a little longer - forgiving my manifold delinquencies I will promise in time to Catch up all arears — No—the boat is not wholly to blame - it hasn't touched water yet. It will be launched next Tuesday in a little lake in Walworth Co, Wis, on the shore of which we have bought a lot and in the next three weeks propose to build a

Cottage_ Anna_ this is Mrs B_
my inseparable companion
goes with me next Monday_
- the family will follow as
soon as the children are out
of school_ We must have a
roof ready to cover their heads
by that time._ Lauderdale
Lake is a delightful summer
retreat and one of the things
which will help me out in
the matter of correspondence
will be a description of our
vacation surroundings_ Possibly
I may be tempted into doing
a little old fashioned field
work_ I shall go provided with
dies at any rate_

Thanks for a copy of
your sketch of the life of
Dr Gray - with portrait
accompanying - I am always
glad to have such things
to preserve with botanical
miscellanea - even if I have
read them before as first
published -

Next winter I am expecting
to do more Willow work than
I ever have before - If some
unseen and uncalculated for
untoward events does not interfere
I see no reason why I may
not start in early - with helps
that I have never had before

I shall have Mr Deane to call upon you in reference to the Harvard library — and since last winter Mr J. G. Baker of Kew has kindly offered to assist me there — in solving the perplexing ~~questions~~ doubts which only a further examination of the old types of Hooker — Andersson &c can remove — I believe it is understood that I am to do the Salix work for the forthcoming new edition (with enlarged range) of Gray's Manual — Do you know I am sorry to have the range extended — What we need now to popularize the study of Botany is more Floras of restricted range — I am glad that in the old days

when I made my first exchanges such a thing as a Catalogue of the Plants of North America was not thought of
considered possible

CARICES BOREALI-AMERICANÆ.

EX COLL. VARIORUM, DISTRIBUIT S. T. OLNEY ANNO 1870.

Carex panicea, *L.*,
var. Canbyi, forma prolifera,-*Olney Mss. Car. Bor. Am. ined.*

HAB. Illinois, *E. Hall.*

Lauderdale Lake, near
Elkhorn, Wis.

July 23/88

Dear Mr Deane.

I have a hazy recollection of having made last spring all sorts of promises, to mend my ways as to promptness in letter writing, when I got up to the Lakes. Alas for good intentions as excuse for non performance of present obligations - Never in my life since I began writing letters at all have I been so absolutely oblivious to all ordinary politeness and even filial duty in this regard as I have been for a month past. At first I did not a little to help the carpenters build the cottage. I enjoyed doing a good days work. ate like a saw mill and slept like a log. Nor when evening came on each day did I hunt up my writing material and do something towards lowering the pile of unanswered letters. The job looked so appalling — and to reduce it by only one or two points. so insignificant a performance in the face of the totality required. I grew callous

– left my stylographic dry up – and instead during the hours of cool twilight threw myself into the stern of the boat aforesaid and had Arthur row me along the shady shores of the lake till bed time – In this way I have made my first personal acquaintance *with aquatics*. The waters of the lake are clear as crystal – and I who have never before day after day floated over beds of Potamogeton – Chara – Myriophyllum &c understand for the first time the enthusiasm of our friend Morong — What few Potamogetons I ever collected from stagnant pools and in flowing streams of impure water were always so incrusted with slime and various deposits of mineral and vegetable matter that I [illegible] felt that the result of preparing them out of all proportion to their actual value — I wondered why it was that some specimens, which I received were so much nicer and more satisfactory that I see now —

Nevertheless I have been content for this season to float over them — collecting has gone by default along with letter writing — Well — at the bottom of the 4th page let me sign —

to say something about the "boat" and "Cottage" - The boat is a complete success - She is 14 feet long - 4 ft beam - and for her length and the water line when she is lightly loaded makes her very easy to row with only two persons in while the width of beam and depth (27 in) gives her a carrying capacity for a good sized family description - With two stout boys on one seat and two vigorous girls on the other - pulling four 9 ft oars. Mrs B and the younger Bettie weighting down the stern (they do it well I can assure you -) and myself for look out and commander in

the boat we dont propose to take
second place on any account -
-either as to the size of our
load - or the speed with which
it is propelled - I will send
you some photographs by & by
of the cottage which is a small
affair - of my own designing -
-with only this merit so far as
exterior is concerned - viz that
it does not look as if it had
strayed out of town and been
lost in the woods -

I shall be glad to hear
from you "more than once"
before "the end of Septr" - but make
no more rash promises -
I still hold to my intention
of making the winter of '88'9
my most industrious winter of
all in the study of Italian

I profess in fact to play
Professor – and ask my friends
pester with questions – borrow
specimens as if I were capable
of using them for the public
good – in fact I am simply
fond of an excuse to gratify
a personal pleasure / delight
my friends with Willow lore
till they will wish me in a
[illegible] where Willows do it,
flourish – make lots of drawings
in my herbarium – (I love to do
that for a word – to an [illegible]
[illegible], pottering for a
minimum of appreciable achieve-
ment – I shall not go to
Cleveland this year – can't
afford it – Sorry! – for Arthur
and Ward and my old Botanizing

companion Perry - and genuine
Spalding and others with the
them all - I [illegible] so enjoy
meetings - I brought in my
trunk the rough draft MS of
White Mountain Villas II - but
have never so much as unrolled
it.

In fact I don't think
botany at all but I still
love botanists - and am
always glad to hear from
them -

Cordially,

Lauderdale Lakes, near
Elkhorn, Wis
Aug 9th/88

My dear Mr Deane—

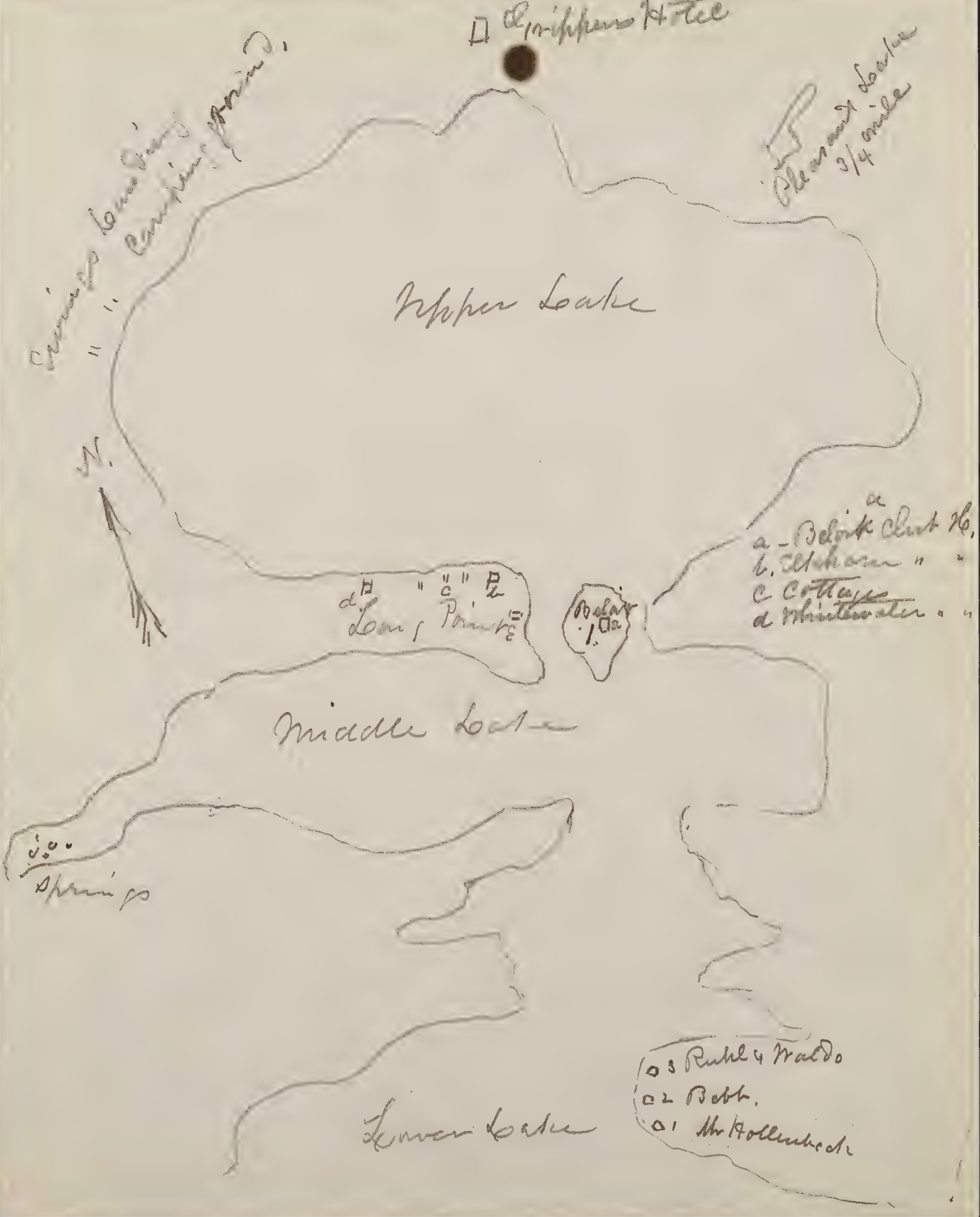
It is a constant surprise to us here in this secluded spot— how we get our mail— Nine miles distant from Elkhorn— with no preconcerted arrangement for its delivery. we get yet our letters and papers every day, almost without fail, and sometimes twice or even thrice daily— We never know when or from whence to expect the mail— Any cottager that happens in town brings the mail for all— or a liveryman is coming out— A little boy from up the lakes rows up to our landing before breakfast with letters - and perhaps later in the day a lad from a neighboring farm house kindly serves us in like manner - The lakes are really quite secluded and quiet (that is why we came here) - and yet everybody is so accommodating and willing to serve that all are benefitted by only an occasional effort on the part of any single individual -

I was lounging under the shade of an old oak - listening to the reading of the last number of *The Forum* - by Mrs B. and other ladies of the party when your last letter was handed me. - I can not just explain - even to my own satisfaction, let alone that of a person at a distance - just what it is that gives zest to

the reading of a letter from a
friend under such circumstances,
The pleasure comes so emphatically
– and you have such a fresh
and youthful appetite to devour
all that is written –

I am glad you have found
such a fruitful resting place
so near home – But I see at
a glance that if I set out to
answer your letter pen in hand
– to let myself loose at every
suggestion – as of Mr Morong and
his trip – and – his wife – nomen-
clature. the N.Y. Catalogue – Prof Greene
&c I shall scribble over eight pages
and even then not be half done
while what I have set out to do
this morning is to give you a
rough description of Lauderdale
Lakes – To begin with – you

probably know something of the condition of surface in which the Great Green Bay Glacier left this whole region — hummocks and irregular ridges of drift — with lakes wherever a depression was too deep for water to find an outlet — Hence the shores are rolling or hilly but never presenting precipitous cliffs — There are seven lakes in the group to which our lakes belong — first Pleasant Lake — a small body of water with neither surface inlet or outlet — then the three Lauderdale Lakes — with no surface inlet but with a considerable outlet — and finally three more small lakes further to the south which like Pleasant Lake have no outlets, — On the next page I will draw a rude map of our lakes to help me out


Griffins Hotel
Swings Landing,
Camping point.
" "
"
Pleasant Lake
3/4 mile
Upper Lake
N.
a
a – Beloit Club H.
b. Elkhorn " "
c Cottages
d Whitewater " "
d
c
b
e
Long Point
Belair
I.
a
Middle Lake
Springs
3 Ruhl & Waldo
2 Bobb.
1 Mr Hollenbeck
Lower Lake

At the extreme west end of middle lake are a number of immense springs - probably the outlet of some subterranean communication with other bodies of water - They vary from 10 to 100 ft in depth - and to float over them in a boat gives a strange impression as if you were suspended in midair - The water is beautifully clear and slightly impregnated with sulphur - Down the sides of the bowl shaped springs the banks are covered with an aquatic growth fresh water algae - of an intense emerald green through which run sharply defined streaks of an intense purple or amethystine color - probably also a vegetable growth - At the bottom the water rises through clean white sand -

In some places the lakes are quite deep - 60 to 100 feet - but for the greater part the depth scarcely exceeds that at which some sort of aquatic vegetation is seen to flourish

-hence the excellent fishing - We have black bass - perch - pickerel - all the best game fish of the region - And I will just pause here to remark that we have been fed on fish fried - fish boiled - fish baked - fillet of fish braised - fish chowder - and every way Mrs B. could devise to vary the bill of fare till I can fully appreciate the action taken by members of our early Illinois Legislature at Vandalia who kicked against a monotony of venison and canvas back ducks and insisted that the landlord should give them "some civilized meat like salt pork"! -

Now if you and Mrs Deane could only make us a visit for a week - not less - it takes a week to get over the excitement of strange surroundings and get settled down to

be real lazy – we would give you
a sort of intensified experience of
this "rowdy west" – "Biled shirts" are
not allowed under any circumstances –
and one of the funny sights which
we all turn out to behold is that of
a departing guest – fixed up with a
stiff collar and Derby hat, – The
fishing is done before breakfast usually –
After breakfast letter writing – After
dinner lounging and reading –
in the evening twilight boating –
and you should be taken along
the south shore of middle Lake to
see foliage effects which we all
admire exceedingly – And now we
would have a surprise in store
for you – just one of those surprises that
in some sort are characteristic of
our western life – viz classic music
rendered in a way that would
command the approval of even you
Bostonians – I really haven't gotten

over the surprise and the odd many sidedness of this myself - Mr Hollenbeck our neighbor on the south is the general Boston agent for the Decker Piano - and an exceptionally fine tenor - He brings with him every summer a fine piano - One lady in camp is a graduate of the Boston Conservatory - a fine pianist - good reader - a neat, conscientious player - Then just south of us is a young lady who is an accomplished violinist - I don't want you to take all this with a grain of salt - she is really just what I say - Now what is it that Goethe says about its being so easy for the spirit to content itself with things that are commonest - and that we should if possible do a number of things each day including the hearing of fine music and speaking a few "reasonable words" the music we have. It is our own fault if we do not speak the two reasonable words — for fine pictures we must substitute nature's offering of brilliant sunsets with a foreground of forest and lake — But I forget myself, I was entertaining friends & relatives — Well — after the music you would have to go to bed under a roof where you could see the rafters and hear the rain patter on the shingles if there happened to be a rain — and family matters including all confidential talk would have to be done in whispers or postponed since for ventilation sake the partitions only extend up eight feet. — And so on — My paper warns me again — some other day I will discuss nomenclature. As between Cambridge and San Francisco I am like the fellow who didn't like the Yankee way of saying "sass" and he equally disliked the Southern way of saying "sarce" — He preferred — namely, something between the two — "sarse"

Cordially
Nell

926 Grand Ave
Rockford Ills
Sept 4/91

Dear Mr Downe

Only a few lines to let you know that we are home again – the younger children have all started in school and we would be settling down to steady occupations for the winter were it not that Mrs Bell has just received a letter from her sister saying that their mother – now in her 80th year – is failing. Mrs B. will probably start for Providence R. I. next week to be gone we can scarcely tell how long – Whether I shall pitch into Williams to fill up the lonesome hours or whether I shall find family cares so multiplied as to keep me away - when I think so I must remember as we have lived together a good many years - the old gentleman is quietly creeping closer up the line nearer to childhood than he is altogether willing to acknowledge - and he does not relish at all the thought of being bereft for even one month of a companionship so constant as to have become part and parcel of his daily life.

We were all more benefitted by our stay at the Lakes than we had anticipated - In two hours Rail Road riding home I am very sure that I took into my lungs more dust and vile atmosphere than I had breathed before in two months - Mrs B is complaining now that the care free life has "spoiled" her that somehow she can not get hold in earnest of her household duties here at home - whereat I rejoice - and express my opinion that when a woman has once learned to keep house perfectly the Lord mercifully removes her to another state of existence —

I did not go to Cleveland — and have seen in the New York and Chicago papers only the briefest mention of the meeting — I wonder what sort of time the botanical fraternity had — I shall look with eager curiosity for the next *Gazette* (by the way do you know how long the Brittons expect to remain abroad).

Let me hear from you often and excuse this mere apology of a letter written I fear hurriedly, to toss back the ball —

Sincerely yours

926 Grand ave
Rockford Ills Dy
Nov 21/88

My dear Mr Deane:-

Judging from the impression which my last letter seems to have given you I must have been down in the dumps when it was written. In truth I was discouraged. Such a heap of things all to be done before January 1st loomed up before me - all the worse that done under pressure the very things became burdensome which might under more favorable circumstances afford the greatest satisfaction in the doing - things social - things financial - things botanical, Well I will tell you what I did – I made a list including every last one – made it as big as I could – but after all the sum total dwindled in the ordering process of what before had been vaguely apprehended – then I shut my study door with a bang and went to work at the least welcome of all the obligations first – I am happy to report that a forenoon thus faithfully put in has lessened the apparently insurmountable heap wonderfully – so much so that I have felt fully assured this morning in entering my study and beginning to straighten out things, preparatory to this sort of pottering over trivial affairs which it would be absurd in me to call work – I have arrears of correspondence to catch up and to-morrow I hope to block out the Willows for the Manual – I wish I had time to give some of the species – for instance S. nigra – a once upon a time make a remark for which he has since been sufficiently berated about men and women - heredity, transmission - procedures and [illegible] which has an application here -

- To deny unqualifiedly that the male has in any degree the "handing on to paternity" of acquired qualities - transmitted through the "conservative trunk" seems to me a weakening of an otherwise sound argument by pushing it to extreme lengths.

Sincerely yours

W. L. [illegible]

thorough study - but under
pressure I must forego this - I
am in hopes to give our bees
species a more satisfactory footing
and to so amend Mr Cresson's
description - (excellent as far as they
go) as to bring them more into
keeping with what is now recognized
as essential -

I like my friend Ward's
article in the Forum on "Our
Better Halves" - I feel in full
sympathy with the drift of his
argument and admire the way
in which he has "applied familiar
facts to the point at issue." But
what does he mean by the
sweeping assertion that "acquired
qualities die with the [male] individ-
ual." Did not a certain Mr Darwin

Rockford Ills
Nov 2/88

My dear Mr Deane -

My plans for the autumn and early winter have been all upset and with both heart and mind otherwise absorbed I have felt an almost insurmountable disinclination to botanical pursuits - and letter writing as well - I have put off answering your last most welcome letter in the hope that a change of mood would come to my relief, but from the days of Marcus Aurelius down to the present time it has required all the philosophy that human nature could command to overcome such a fatal excuse for delay. I am thinking now that I can expect - at anyrate - my old midwinter season for study - say from January to March - and after the holidays I shall make a desperate attempt to rekindle the old enthusiasm -

Your account of the past seasons herborizing recalls to my mind - very forcibly - my own industry and pleasure in like pursuits - "years and years ago."

The housemother and "head-centre" - (heart-centre would be a better word) of this domestic establishment returned to her place two weeks ago and things have been settling down into the old grooves since - so that it now seems almost like a dream that she was away for a month, - I sincerely trust that Mrs Deane who was "steadily improving" when you last wrote - may by this

time have entirely regained her
health —

Dear old friend J. Blake! — I
never saw him — but I loved him
all the same — I came to know
him in all his traits almost
as if he had lived next door —
And his herbarium offered for
sale at $1100! — I wonder if time
counted at day laborers wages per
hour — paper — express charges —
and other outlays were all added
up what the sum would be! — How
much we prize our herbaria —
— and what would they be "worth
on the market"? — But ah bless'd
for ever be illusions — and when I
am too old — too worldly-wise — to
cease to yield to their potent
influence may I be translated!
Mr Blakes specimens were often
far from satisfactory — and I fancy

his mounting and I betray, the
same lack of neatness - Twenty five
years ago Blake was one of a group
of old fashioned botanists - which is
would be hard ~~to~~ duplicate at the
present day - as active. out door
observers of nature - Or do I grow
old - and being "out of the swim"
myself fancy the entire situation
changed - Let me name that group
Blake - Chickering - Porter - Fraile Greene
Vasey - Hale - Hall - with Sartwell -
Short and Olney growing old and
lazy - and Patterson. Babcock - just
coming on - Oh yes and Canby - why did
I forget him - Well we used to
collect in quantity and divide up -
If in my day I was not the means
of supplying every herbarium on the
face of the earth with Pulsatilla -
Nuttalliana and Geum triflorum - it
must be because those who received
specimens did not properly sub-
divide -

Have you read my friend

Ward in the last *Forum* on "Our Better Halves" - a captive working over of already admitted premises - and the deduction of conclusions that seem so true - so almost self-evident that we all must wonder that we were so stupid as not to think the same thing for ourselves - It is helpful too to have the point so frankly presented that for the evolution of man we must cultivate the conservative female trunk rather than the variable male side line - I have always congratulated myself that I was not created a male spider - it is so much nicer to be a lover and be coddled rather than to be a lover and then be gobbled - but when you come right down to the bottom facts. I rather guess that the position we occupy in nature is not so very-very far from the spiders after all -

You will let me know when you hear from Mr Murray -

Cordially

C Bebb

926 Grand Ave
Rockford Ills
Jan 1st/89

My dear Mr Deane —

I wish you a Happy New Year!

Since the fools of both sexes killed New years Calling there is nothing left for an oldish gentleman like myself but to stay at home - clean house - clear the decks for action - or by whatsoever metaphor you please - to get things in order for another years work - That is what I have been doing all morning - arranging bundles not before disturbed since last spring - finding out where I had left things &c-&c -

I have the Willows for the Manual written out – an improvement I would fain hope on what has gone before – and now while I have my hand in and feel in the mood for such work I intend to block out a monograph of *all* the N. American species – The rush of things that carried me clean off my feet three months ago has pretty much subsided and I see no good reason why I may not count upon two or three months that will give me a few hours at least every day for study –

I have just sent Mr Britton a little note for the Bulletin picking up "E. E. S" for his reckless conjecture that gall bearing by Billows might be the result of "insect agency become hereditary" What superlative nonsense!

I wrote to Ward, making essentially the same criticism on his article - as I did in my last letter to you - I take the liberty of inclosing his reply - which please return -

How much inspiration you must get from constantly meeting and associating with botanists "the one event in our lives which is never forgotten is the alighting of an intelligent stranger at our gate" - I almost never see one unless I go and hunt him up at some convention! - Botanist I mean -

My hip pockets have been empty and useless for months - I shall begin stuffing them shortly!

I had some correspondence a few years ago with Mr J. D. Smith - that I doubt not came to an end through my fault - and inefficiency. He happened to strike me when almost perforce I was absorbed in pot-boiling cares. Pray tell me what manner of man he is - age - personal characteristics - &c I fancy that _res angusta domi_ is less a tyrannical circumstance in his case than in that of some of the rest of us. -

Thanks for the pretty holiday greeting, and remembrance -

Cordially
Bell

926 Grand Ave
Rockford Ills
June 17th/89

My dear Mr Deane –

Had you done anything else than send me with your last letter some Willows of the fragilis-alba group for my opinion I would have replied long ago – I haven't any opinion for my own personal use that I would guarantee to last a fortnight! – I sent off my MS of the Manual Salices the first of the week – and the only changes I have wished to make since the pages left my hands were in regard to these plants –

Your No 1 is Salix Russelliana Sm. a form near fragilis – Mr Babington, as quoted by Hooker – considers this as not even a variety of fragilis – but this view is not entertained by those who have more attentively studied hybrid Willows - as probably Mr Bebb has not - for he writes me that he knows less about Willows now than he did twenty five years ago - Inferentially he has given them little thought since his work at Kew has been otherwise directed

No 2 - *S. alba* not adulterated - but it is neither alba typica of Europe - nor caerulea - nor vitellina - It is just Americanized *alba* and I don't know what else to call it -

3. S. nigra - This is good *nigra*. as I should say, also of No 4 - It is only convenient to keep up the var *falcata* for some forms with extremely narrow and falcate - (*scythe-shaped* is just the word) leaves,

5 - alba again - Of alba-vitellina we have only the ♀ - Other forms of alba I have not seen much of growing - I had a tree of

vitellina in my country place (Fountaindale) that long before any other European Willow was planted near was annually fertilized perfectly by insect agency - no doubt with lucida pollen - I wish I had taken a good supply of specimens for the ones I have are about the only fully filled out ones in my herb. of American growth.

You will be surprised when I tell you that there are only 4 sheets of S. fragilis (including Russelliana and so called decipiens) in the Gray Herb. and half of them showing only leaves!

You know I named a variety of S. nigra for Ward. I imagine Prof Sargent didn't altogether approve of my doing so - though I suppose that the plant was not even a variety of nigra - Well what do you think! I have found a good specimen of good var. Wardi -

call Short Falls of the Ohio - 1840 -
- ~~Short's~~ leaves only - Short labels
his specimen Salix cordata -
Carey runs his pen through
cordata - through the sheet MANUAL 147
and writes underneath "angustata"
Pursh - and finally comes
Andersson who describes these
leaves (DC Prod) as a new form
of "angustata discolor" - so
now I hold up my head - If
leaves of this plant - unaccompanied
by aments - can thus mislead the
very elect - surely I was justified
in making it a variety -

Yours cordially
Bebb -

P.S. Yours with Mr Deane's letter at hand
- always glad to hear from you - Thanks
I shall not forget Brewster Place for
specimens - any more than I shall forget
the teachers pocket conveniences for
acquisition of knowledge. We too are having
very nice weather - How old is Mr Smith?

926 Grand Ave
Rockford Ills
Feb 6th/19

My dear Mr Deane -

Will you please (sometime within a week - at your convenience) refer to the original description of Salix petiolaris, Smith. Linn. Trans 6. 122 and copy for me what is there said as to habitat. I believe the plant was at first supposed to be of British origin. In the oldest reference my limited library affords I find that "it was sent to Mr Crowe by Mr Dickson along with the last (S. laurina) as of British growth"

Mr Crowe and Mr Dickson were cultivators of Willows in those days. I only wish to refer to the matter incidentally - but like Davy Crockett - want to be sure I am right before I go ahead -

I suppose I am to appear in both the Feb. Bulletin and Feb Gazette - in the former with No 11 of White Mtn

Willows in the latter with some notes on the Lanatae group with a description of a pretty little var of S. Richardsonii found last summer by Mr J. M. Macoun on the islands of James Bay, —

As to S. nigra — it is only convenience to keep up the var falcata for forms with narrow scythe shaped leaves — the dividing line will of course be a shifting one "depending upon the taste and fancy of the speller" as Sam Weller says — the stipules come and go according to their own sweet will — be the leaves what they may, they really afford no distinction —

You will be surprised perhaps when I report that I once had for distribution 100 or more good specimens of S. conjuncta — Alas that was more than twenty years ago and the stock was soon exhausted —

I can not help you out on your desiderata — though somebody — as active as I was in years gone by ought surely to supply C. glabra — that is not so hopeless as most of the others named — I am impatient to see Morong's article in the next Bull.

Cordially Bebb

926 Grand ave

Rockford Ills
Feb 7th/89

My dear Mr Deane:

While you are about it may I beg a further assistance of the sort mentioned yesterday – Please refer to Chamisso in Linnaea p 539 and copy for me all that relates to S. myrtilloides. β 1. 2. 3 & 4.

We have on our northern coast and ~~ranging~~ extending northward to Point Barrow a series of forms of S. myrtilloides – gradually modified by subarctic and extreme arctic influences which are very perplexing. Without having access to the herbaria of Kew and St Petersburg – nor to any very extensive botanical library it would seem as if I was in no situation to undertake any original investigation of these forms. But I can not escape the necessity of arriving at some opinion concerning them - and painstaking study of recent collections has shaken my confidence - never very strong - in Andersson's work - here as in other directions - He can not be relied upon - You never know how to take him.

I have no idea whatever of Chamisso's work to which I refer you - As the references all seem to be to page 539 I infer the matter is not lengthy - Please copy anything that may (in the light of what I have written) bear upon the investigation in hand. -

Also, if you have patience, Salix polaris lejocarpa Chamisso Linnaea 6. 542 - and S. retusa rotundifolia Ledeb fl Ross 3. p. 624.

I close in haste to send by one of the children going to school - I fear you are very busy and that I am asking for more than a fair share of the leisure you can command after the arduous duties of the day - And your past indulgence

[illegible] spoken - Fraternally Bebb

926 Grand Ave
Rockford Ills
Feb 16th/89

My dear Mr Deane -

Thanks for the transcriptions from Chamisso - They are of immediate interest and accompanying the form to which they relate will be of permanent value. The Island of St Paul stands for me as yielding two things Fur seal pelts and a very peculiar willow - not so very much unlike related forms but after all with enough of insular character to be recognized at once - I doubt if another willow grows on the island - but every collector is sure to get this one - It must be common for the average collector does not pick up a willow as a general rule if he can step over it or get around it - Now one of the things which I wished to know was just where in the series of forms

of it, might there be made another
modification [illegible] arranged
by Chamisso. Then [illegible] would

find a place. I expected to have
to follow the little hints here and
there and get along the best I
could with what [illegible] very limited
resources would yield. Imagine
therefore my surprise when I found
the description of forma 4 bearing
of: "E Insula Sancti Pauli". That
settled it! even if the description
following had not been entirely
confirmatory.

How delightful and
stimulating it must be to meet
real botanists — to live right
amongst such people. Years ago
when Babcock was alive, in
Chicago. When Hall also was "in
the form" and Patterson was
active. I did used to see a brother
devotee of the amiable science — once in a while though — the
sight was rare. But now I
see no one — I go (with Mrs B.) the
Monday evening clubs — and Browning
clubs and all the rest of it

in any historical question
less than two hundred years
old. Thus I had come to
imagine that he, Ward, had
no interest in any botanical
question not as old as the
Tertiary - to say the least - and
I was both surprised and
delighted to find that he could
still write so enthusiastically
about the plants of the fields
that the sun now shines upon
— not omitting to ask for
a specimen of the "King devil".
By the way you have, along with the
rest of us I suppose, received a circular
of the projected Monograph of the
British Hieracia - price only six
dollars a year for five years
- thirty dollars for a genus of
seven species according to Bentham,
10, Hooker. But after all it is
difficult in such a case to say
how many species there should be -
the 7 or 10 - seem as difficult to limit
as the 40 or 50 - of other authors -

If I had room to tell you of my [illegible] delights
[illegible] it is your own fault if you wonder at the [illegible] [illegible]

in pursuit of mental stimulus and the pleasures of social intercourse — but I am not tempted to "talk shop" even if I felt so inclined — nobody to talk to! Still a prophet doth have honor even in his own land — Did I ever tell you about a cranky old maid who died in town a few years ago — I never saw her — never had any communication with her whatever — but she bequeathed me her Herbarium! — in one volume — one third full — *pink paper* — I do wish you could see it! —

I have a very flattering note from Coulter anent my forthcoming Willow paper in the Feb. Gazette — Yes I enjoyed Meehan's letter in the Bulletin and Ward's article in the Gazette hugely — I immediately wrote to Ward that I had heard that Prescott always said that he had no interest

i[illegible] as a [illegible] manuscript in this letter and [illegible] Rob

926 Grant Ave
Rockford Ills
Feb 28th/89

My dear friend Deane:-

I have been under the weather for a week or more - unable to write or even to read - but comfortable so long as I did not undertake to do anything. I know there are lots of people with a constitutional tendency of similar character - so I do not like to state my condition too frankly without qualification - but it is a fact that I could lie mighty comfortable on a lounge (barring qualms of conscience) and get tired when I presumed after that to get up and go about my daily avocations - ~~that~~ I just could'nt -. If that is the way an awfully lazy man feels all the time - he has my heartfelt sympathy -

I have enjoyed "Doctor Hoy's" letter - as much as you can imagine - and his very account

of Paraguay [illegible] - and the
[illegible] of that old Jesuit city
Asuncion has been read over and
over and over again to I dare not
tell you how many persons.
Mr Taylor (Morong's old classmate)
particularly enjoyed it. - I should
have returned one letter and forwarded
the other sooner - had it not been for
my illness in part - and the desire
to let just one more friend perhaps
share our pleasure. - Thanks.

With the exception of a letter to
Coulter yesterday - acknowledging the
receipt of his revision of our Umbell
species. this is the first writing of any
sort that I have done in ten days
and even now I find both hand
and head a little shaky - Coulter
has done an admirable work on
our Umbelliferae - consistent throughout
(too consistent in fact when he
reduces Sanicula Marylandica) and
the plates are beauties! To the student
they must prove most serviceable -
I don't thank "C & R" however for
crediting me with "field notes"

relating to Zizia – More than ten years ago I had arrived at the very views now published – and it was fifteen years ago that I discovered the sessile central fruitlet of Zizia as a generic character – Nobody knows this any better than Coulter and it would have been just a bit magnanimous on his part to have made the acknowledgement – instead of appropriating the discovery it to himself and crediting me with "field notes" – I detest this sort of thing not because it hurts my vanity in any way – but I would like to see every botanist go out of his way if need be to render to others every last bit of credit due! But what a snag for Coulter to strike is Bupleurum – a natural genus if there is one in Umbelliferae and yet not founded upon carpological characters! So also the return to our Sanicula. Coulter says always separable but only by characters that are varietal. How does he know that? Are long styles and short styles mean characters - especially when constantly combined with others? Because two species of Sanicula can not be separated carpologically they must be varieties - because two species of Bupleurum can not be united carpologically, they seem to belong to two genera! Minute histological characters are useful so long as they conform to and strengthen natural subdivisions - when carried beyond this - being made the sole basis of classification they are no great help after all. My experience with Vittaes is that they abound where they are not needed and become worthless just when we most need something reliable to help out!

My herbarium on pink paper is not very "little" but it is "funny" all the same. Sometime I may send you a few sheets or pages.

No! there was no paper from me in the Feb *Gazette* but what was a good deal better than was a breezy account of herborizing on Cape Cod by One *Walter* Deane – which my wife read to me. I do enjoy exceedingly just such things as this! What delightful conjuring to please a semi-invalid shut in by a winter snow storm – little ponds with clean sandy borders gay with Coreopsis – Lobelia and what not – a fringe of scrub oaks back to give seclusion – and then those Utricularias – dashing the surface with purple and yellow – Oh I just shut my *eyes* and took it all in – even the picking out some choice specimens with my own hands – washing them clean and arranging the dripping sprays between the "folders" of the portfolio – *I've been there* – even if I am grown old & lazy.

I, myself, didn't expect

another 'King Devil' from France
- for I had written him that
the specimens would serve by
placing them in a pocket - (they
were in reality worn and discolored
to begin with). But last evening I
received more in a good stiff
package - and nice ones too!
My first pkg (as perhaps I wrote) was
in just the condition of yours - very
rolled up endwise and tied around
with a string

I hope to get back to the
Willows in a few days and
have nearly four weeks in which
they can occupy the spare hours
before the season for gardening
begins -

Cordially yours
M L [illegible]

I hate this paper! I bought it to use
up on printers and now I am
using it up on my friends

926 Grant Ave
Rockford Ills
March 23, '89

My dear Mr Deane—

I don't think that picture looks very much like me after all! I naturally carry my head forward—and keep my eyes open! but the operator got me into an instrument of torture and straightened up my spine and then an effort to look compos-ed turned out sleepy— I didn't intend you should recognize the effigy from the outside! Why if it had been sent to me I should have taken it off-hand for a Willow to be named! Now where is your photograph! I have been impatient to ask for it all along but couldn't in decency until I had sent my own— I ought to tell you that when the pictures came into the house it seemed to be the common understanding down to the youngest member of the family that one was to go to Mr Deane night B.

I send you herewith a preliminary sketch of *Notes on N. A. Willows No IV.* I have made four copies. One I send to Dr Watson as a representative of the conservative school in the stir that is being made now-a-days anent nomenclature. One to Dr Britton as a representative of the school that knows "no *botanical* 'Prince or Potentate'" — one to Prof Coulter for obvious reasons — and one to yourself because you will understand the question better than any of them. *Now criticise it — that is what it is* sent for. Criticise it up and down — in general and in particular — as to matter and manner — candidly and freely. If it can't stand this sort of racket I don't want to publish it. There are some little things I should like to say — but they might prejudice

I send you enclosed, a botanical specimen rec'd from Florida some time ago, of which the sender says — "a plant of the *Compositae* that is new & *Dr. Gray* says of not only a new *Genus* but a new *order*."

Please write me what you can regarding this plant as I have no further information regarding it, than the above.

the point that interests me -

By the way have you read Fowler's essay on "Arctic Plants growing in New Brunswick" from Trans. Roy. Soc. Canada - It is an interesting paper. I could lend you my copy - if you care to read it.

We are having delightful spring weather. Saturday P.M. we made our first open air planting in the vegetable garden. The soil is warm - dry & mellow -

Here is something rec'd last week. ~~from~~ The wonderful novelty included was flowers of Melia azederach! with leaves of some Malvaceous plant, "a plant of the Compositae" and yet according to Dr Young's "say" "a new order"!

Yours cordially

M. S. Bebb

your judgment and can just as well be said some other time.

Now there is something from the hip pocket — no need of haste in reply. I may not want to use the information inside of four months. Salix herbacea is a common arctic and alpine species of Europe — Andersson says also throughout the whole of Siberia but I suspect there is no evidence of its occurrence in Eastern Siberia. It is not found in Western Arctic America. We have it on the alpine summits of New England and Lower Canada — and it is reported from Greenland. Now will you please ascertain for me if it occurs in Eastern Arctic America and Iceland. Probably Hookers Arctic Plants would afford the desired information. The distribution suggests a connection with Europe via Greenland and Iceland — that is

Notes on North American Willows. II.

M. S. Bebb

1. [illegible] [illegible]

2. S. [illegible], [illegible] [illegible])

[illegible], [illegible] published in 1858. [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] 1867, [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] (1862). [illegible] he makes no reference to it. With the exception of Ledebour who misapprehended *S. arctica*, Pall. and united with it as a synonym *S. arctica* R. Br. the first came to be recognized by our European botanists that the name, *S. arctica*, had been given to two distinct species. Both names continued to be sustained, one by its manifest priority, the other by the preponderating authority of Robert Brown. The species were distinguished in each instance by citing one author and excluding the other. Thus it was *S. arctica*, Pall. (not R. Br.) or *vice versa* *S. arctica* R. Br. (not Pall.) This state of things continued unchanged down to the time when Andersson's revision of the entire genus for De Candolle's *Prodromus* precipitated the suppression of one or the other of the two names. The older species received the name of *S. Pallasii*, And., and the authority of Pallas was carried over and imposed upon *S. arctica* R. Br.: *S. arctica*, Pallas became *S. Pallasii* n. sp. and *S. arctica* R. Br. became *S. arctica*, Pall.; the two species [illegible] from the shifting of names;

standing in the same relation precisely as heretofore, had S. arctica, Pall. been written down a synonym of S. Pallasii and S. arctica R. Br. left intact some degree of consistency could be urged in behalf of an author who throughout pays little or no regard to claims of priority. It might be argued that S. arctica R. Br. was so deeply imbedded in the science that it could not, and ought not, be torn out by the roots and that it were better, since one of the two names must be suppressed, that the more obscure — even if confessedly the older one — be sacrificed. Any such apology however is felt to be out of place when we have a new species made of the old S. Pallasii, the authority of Pallas transferred to a species of which he was entirely ignorant, and Robert Brown left out entirely *

---

* S. arctica, Pall.	S. Pallasii, var. crassijulis, And.
[illegible]	folia supra medium
pilosa latiora,	pilosa latioribus,
obovata,	obovatis,
apice latiore attenuata,	apice attenuatis,
integerrima.	integerrima,

[illegible] [illegible],	[illegible] [illegible]-[illegible],
subtus tenuissime villosa,	subtus sericeis,
amenta fœminea magna	amentis fœmineis parva
[illegible], digiti	[illegible], [illegible],
minimi [illegible]	
lateribus ramorum,	lateralibus
longius pedunculata [illegible]	pedunculata superne [illegible]
[illegible] e foliis [illegible]	longe nuda inferne 2-3
stipata	foliis 1-3 instructa
capsulæ conicæ	capsulis conicis,
[illegible]-cana	longe conico-villosis,

"Capsulæ conicæ" tall and "amenta, densiflora," [illegible], [illegible] the same could not be [illegible], [illegible] opposite each other in the [illegible].

Pursh's date 1814, twelve years before S. [illegible] R. Br. (1826) upon specimens brought home by British explorers was published.

But we are not obliged to rest our judgment solely upon the characters given, though in the present instance the evidence is in itself conclusive. Not only does the name S. [illegible] imply the careful consideration by Pursh but we have the assurance of his admission that he had seen the specimens of [illegible] (Types of

HERB. M. S. BEBB.

S. arctica Pall.) from the herbarium of Pallas, mounted *S. arctica* and that these did not differ from his *S. Pallasii* var. *diplodictya*!

The venerable D. Trautvetter whose special study of arctic willows and whose familiarity with the work done on Pallas by Russian botanists must combine to give his opinion a weight beyond that of Andersson, writes in a letter "*S. diplodictya* differs from *S. brunsifolius*, (*S. arctica* Pall. not R. Br.) only in the leaves green and shining beneath and it may be questioned if the species is well founded." Here in a brief sentence we have the pith and substance of the whole matter. 1 that *S. diplodictya* is not distinct from *S. brunsifolius*, 2, that *S. brunsifolius* is synonymous with *S. arctica* Pall. which is the main point, and finally 3. the familiar assertion that the *S. arctica* of Pallas *is not* the *S. arctica* of Robert Brown — a statement which can not be made too emphatic in view of the placid acquiescence for years past in the dictum of Andersson to the contrary.

It is to be regretted that a name grown so familiar as that of Sarctia R. Br. must needs be disturbed, on the other hand the open fact of the priority of Sarctia Pall. can not be ignored, and as what Sir William J. Hooker was wont to call "Mr Brown's Sarctia" was only sustained by the constant mention of the name of the distinguished author let us hope that the substitution of this name for the one preoccupied may in a large degree preserve unbroken the old associations.

926 Grand Ave
Rockford Ills
April 4/79

My dear Mr Deane

That must have been a good supper, satisfactory and not overtaxing the general circulation - for it certainly straitened you out on the S. arctica question. I thank you, over and over again, for your thoughtful consideration of my paper. Your detection of one slip of the pen (amounting to a downright blunder in a controversial discussion) more than repays me for all the trouble of sending out all of the copies. At the bottom of page 3 for "a new species made of the old S. Pallasii" read instead a new name given to the old S. arctica Pall. This I fancy is what threw you off the track in the first place - and I wonder that it was so completely overlooked not only by myself but by Coulter

and Watson as well - Coulter by
the way gives his "unqualified
approval" and Watson says
that I am "entirely right" - but I
must not stop now, when I have
in mind to answer *your* letter.
Britton I have not yet heard
from - Your after supper postscript
shows that you already apprehend
the drift of my argument - so I
need only to mention "some of the
points that are still not quite clear"
"Could a man be such a fool as to
put against the name of a plant
the authority of a man whom he
knew never saw the plant?" Well
yes! that is just what Andersson
did - but it wouldn't do for me to
call names, however much it
might add to the force of my
presentation of the matter -
Andersson *knew* that his S. Pallasii
was the equivalent of the old
S. arctica Pall - on his own admis-
sion - After describing S. Pallasii
β diplodictya he says "Specimina

hic descripta ex sinu Laurentii a Chamisso et a Sujef inter Obim fl. et mare glaciale in herbario Pallasii S. arctica inscripta vidi" - Furthermore in the "deadly parallel + columns" which I give in a foot note - I quote first Pallas word for word and then the ~~equ~~ corresponding phrases of Andersson in describing S. Pallasii - to show their thorough equivalency - Your suggestion is a good one, and I shall put those columns in quotation marks and cite my authority - I thought this would be inferred from the heading - but see now the pertinency of your criticism - "I don't see how And could make the remarkable statement that Pallas's S arctica resembled his S. Pallasii β." Well it beats me - Having admitted it - he did not restore the name because he claimed throughout the right to give a new name to to a new combination of old species - regardless of any claim of priority - And why admitting it he did not cite S. arctica as a synonym of S. Pallasii - beats me. The man was not honest - That is the plain English of it - and this example is no worse than the one ~~to~~ which you will remember I corrected years ago - when S. macrocarpa Nutt was tacked off on a plant from Hudsons Bay which Nuttall never saw and his species captured for a new S. Geyeriana Anders.! with a bigger A. than I have room for, - or deliberately suppressing S. balsamifera Barratt in order to make room for S. pyrifolia Anders - The man would lie and steal on any occasion when he seemed to think detection remote and improbable! - "I still don't see why you need to prove that the old S. arctica Pall = S. Pallasii And"

Why! - because on this hinges the whole question - If I can prove them equal then S. Pallasii must be changed back to S. arctica Pall. - and then the name of S. arctica R. Br being anticipated ~~pre occupied~~ must needs be replaced by the S. Brownii which I propose - I do not rely so much on Anderssons admission or Trautvetters opinion either - as I do on the fact that there is no escaping the conviction upon characters given alone - that Pallas had in view the plant of Eastern Siberia and the Alaskan shores - and not the plants of Greenland - Eastern Arctic America - Labrador &c - These characters are pronounced and fortunately are described in an extreme form as far as possible from the S. arctica of R Br. I wonder a little that in repeating them Andersson did not paraphrase more than he did

The actual verbal coincidence in those columns is damning.

But enough. After making the emendations and corrections herein noted. please read my paper over again. and tell me why it is that I fail to make my statements clear. I confess it troubles me to find that you got "snarled." If a careful thoughtful reader like yourself can't make out what I mean - then I may ~~well~~ as well realize that the average fellow will go over about two pages and then give up in disgust. Still I know (it is something I never forget.-) that precious few persons care for Willows anyway - and my record is more a mere technical contribution to science than anything of interest beyond that. - I value your long letter (especially when I know that your time - minute by minute - has a money value) and thank you again for your really helpful criticisms

that Amelia notice means only
foolishness - Don't you ever have
thrust upon you just such
stuff!

Don't imagine that all this
time I have _forgotten_ the
photograph _in toto_ - We were
all delighted to get it - You
know too that for some
reason which you may con-
strue me as flattering a way
as you choose - Mr Deane is
a botanical correspondent in
whom the _whole_ family seem
to have taken a personal
interest - there were various criti
cisms which I forbear to repeat
only one of the children said
that you "didn't look so much
like a botanist as like an
energetic young business man
who was pretty well satisfied
with the way the world had
used him" - I received Mr
Watsons picture at almost the
same time - How much older

he has grown since I saw him last – 16 or 17 years ago – Dear me – is it so long ago as that!

I have laid aside for you some nice specimens of S. arctica R. Br. – but of the Pallasian species I have but two specimens myself and no duplicates – these being supplemented by tracings from the material in the Gray Herb. which is still in my hands. One of the "jobs" I have ahead of me is the re arrangement of the varieties under both species and hence I did not return the Gray specimens with the rest of the Herb.

Yours cordially

M S Bebb –

Coulter hits the nail on the head. He writes me "I see the personal element that makes you hesitate. It looks, on the face of it, like doing what Andersson did, viz, knocking one species and capturing another for yourself. I don't think you would hesitate at all if you were simply restoring the two species to their proper authors"

926 Grant Ave
Rockford Ills
April 10th/19

My dear friend Deane

I read, next morning, in the newspaper how the good people of Mass. had been spending their Fast Day. But no mention was made of those persons who availed themselves of the occasion to canvass public libraries in the interest of science. Possibly the throng did not attract the notice of the reporter.

Thanks over and again for the notes on S. Bebbiana. They have gone into the genus cover along with the specimens of this little willow to be used by & by. You always give full measure & something more than I ask~~ed~~ for and therefore your notes are all the more acceptable. For instance in this case - Mr Taylor's account of how the species grows in some spots in Greenland - I think I must use that when I come to S. herbacea in the "White Mountain Willows" series -

I have some gardening and other out-of-door work to do and shall be obliged to let up on botany for the present - I intend (and hope a good intention may not miscarry short of execution) to do a little old fashioned collecting at the Lakes this summer - Not much, but just enough for the pleasure of it - If I do I shall have something besides Willows to send you - Not much - and nothing that will be new - only interesting possibly on account of the locality -

Yours cordially
M. S. Bebb

Later - Wednesday P.M. - The postman has just left your letter of the 6th. and I add a few lines - without of course having taken any time to consider - I will put your letter with all the rest of the memoranda to be considered in a final revision of my paper - but my present feeling is that I will make few changes - ~~of moment~~ - Your suggestion may be a good one - and I may come round to see the matter just as you put it - and yet I must confess that right now - as I said before without taking time to consider it strikes me that having made the sweeping assertion that Andersson gave a new name to the old S. arctica Pall. transferred the authority of Pallas to a species of which he was entirely ignorant and left Robert Brown out entirely - I reach a climax.

after which I would only weaken my statement by amplification. - Hence I put the comparison of Pallas' S. arctica - and Anderson's S. Pallasii in a foot note

We have no "_family group_" - (there was a laugh when I read _that_ -) but I may send you one of these days _my set_ of family pictures - just to give you an impression of the young "Bebbs". -

Yours ever

B -

926 Grant Ave
Rockford Ills
May 13th/89

Dear friend Deane

I am just home from a weeks visit in and about Chicago, where I have living a sister - two sons - a daughter and two nieces - all married. I had the "hustle" to get around on time - the letter from Dr Morong came while I was away - It has been read, duly appreciated, and lies now on my table enclosed and addressed to Prof Bailey.

Wife and I had intended to go up the Lauderdale Lakes a week from to-day, to build a kitchen addition to our cottage. But there is so much to be done here at home we have postponed going until the next Monday - that is two weeks from to-day.

I came out from Chicago on a new line recently completed by the Illinois Central R.R. — It was a queer experience. To begin with the old rail roads — in a prairie country — present in the inclosed right of way the best botanical preserves that the country affords — spoiled neither by cultivation nor pasturage — Furthermore at every 6 to 9 miles there is sure to be a little country town and trading station, P.O. &c — Now this track of the Ill. Central — is an air line projected by one of the most powerful R.R. corporations in the country — It runs over high prairie — the whole distance from Chicago to Rockford 100 miles is made without touching the outskirts even of a single village — it goes driving through farmers back door yards that look astonished to be so suddenly exposed to public view — and the way side is as uninteresting in a botanical point of view as a stubble field or a late plowing.

I have nothing of botanical interest to communicate. Indeed I fear I shall have to beg your patience and forbearance while I run through one of those seasons when botany (but not botanists) ceases to occupy my thoughts. Henry Ward Beecher in describing his experience in addressing a British mob during the war times said it was like trying to drive a team of run away horses and making love to a woman at the same time. I am not up to any such feats "at all at all" - I might manage the team if I gave my whole thought and physical energy to the task. - I'm pretty sure - all things being favorable I could get through the other part of the business - but I should make only a flat failure in both if I tried them together –

When I am working about home and have a whole list of things to be done. I pitch right in and dig away to the end. Then I am ready for the next thing – I believe I managed more irons in the fire at once when I was younger. But have gotten out of the way of that sort of thing of late. And apropos of this what a reserve fund of energy that man Doctor Henry must possess for a man of his years – Not just youth in spirit. But bearing a steady strain day after day – month after month – It is astounding –

Yours cordially

M L [illegible]

926 Grant Ave
Rockford Ills
June 12/19

My dear friend Deane:

Just back from the Lakes, where I put in my time faithfully like an old time Carpenter working by the job who never heard of such a thing as 8 hours for a days work. Wife went along and acted as tender and general overseer - kept the table going - ordered me off work - and when it came 8 o-clock darkened all the windows and said it was bed time, got up by the watch, let in the light when she thought best and in fact acted as a little local goddess of sunshine - in a reasonable measure quite independent of the wholesale flood of light. We are quite proud of our new kitchen - built separate from the cottage with covered way between - southern fashion - It is rather small for the spread of the roof however - and looks like a country boy in a broad brimmed straw hat.

I am sorry to say the *Gazette* sends me no extras of my last Willow paper - I was looking all along for the galley proof - and intended to write on that the number desired - when first thing I knew 'long came the thing all in print - It was my own fault - and yet I feel sorry that it did not occur to Coulter, that as I had had extras of all the other nos of the series I would want the same of this.

We go up to the Lakes "for good" June 29th - My address will be *Lauderdale Lakes*, near *Elkhorn*, *Wis.* I shall hope to hear from you as often as the spirit moves - and through you from the botanical world generally. I will *promise* to write in return. but at the same time with some "twitching qualms of conscience" lest *performance* may miscarry.

"Tonsolitis and dyspepsia" What a miserable combination! Either alone were bad enough.

Dr Britton has sent (loaned) me some drawings, belonging to "Columbia Coll. made under Dr Barratts direction to illustrate a work on American Willows. They settle some things very conclusively. about which more anon.—

I am setting out to catch up *three* weeks arrears of correspondence and begin on you with three pages. *at* this rate I shall not get through in time—

Cordially

M. S. Bebb

Lauderdale Lake near
Elkhorn Wis (P.O.)
~~Aug~~ 31/89
July

My dear friend Deane

About a week ago I had a severe attack of neuralgia lasting from midnight till daybreak. More nerves than I ever imagined traversed the left side of my head were involved. I have been slowly recovering since. The severe pain left almost as suddenly as it came on - and I have been wondering if physical debility was a cause or consequence - the two ~~a~~ that is the neuralgia and a state of absolute crushed out good-for-nothingness
vaguely or indirectly
be contemporaneous. I have sought a shady spot on the lake shore for the sake of peace and quietness (feeling unusually sensitive to all human and especially busy noises) but from back in the country comes the muffled rattling of a harvesting machine. The camp with its lazy atmosphere is not far away from the busy world after all!

I rec'd a letter a few days ago from Dr Watson - In due course he had just reached my Willow MS. which you will remember I was rushed to get ready by Jan 1st because there was going to be trouble in the N.Y. Printing Office if I did it - I am both pleased and reassured to have Dr W's most hearty approval - He wrote me last winter that the only changes he might find necessary would be in the "direction of brevity" and now he writes me that he had none to make whatever - which pleases me best of all - for I had cut down those descriptions and in every way so diligently sought brevity of expression I wondered where more of the same sort of work was to come in and keep the sense -

Dr Britton has sent me the proofs of my 3d White Mt Willow papers - Coming to hand after so long an interval it was almost new to the writer even - I believe I have so presented the matter of the restoration of Salix Uva ursi as to put S. Cutleri to rest in limbo for all time to come. Indeed if Dr Gray had not been too willing to follow his friend Andersson

"Alinely" the name would never have gained any publicity in this country -

I hope you are enjoying your vacation and that change of air and freedom from household cares may have wrought great improvement in Mrs Deans health. I never visited Monadnock - but I recall very distinctly a day spent on the summit of Wachusett about twenty years ago, say twenty two for exactness ~~for~~ A storm passed between the two mountains and the whole scene was to me ~~new~~ both novel and inspiring - I was a westerner born and bred and had never looked down upon a storm before - besides I had fallen desperately in love with a New England maiden who was contemplating the scene from beneath the same umbrella so that accounts! Oh I remember Monadnock, as seen in the distance most vividly!

No - I am ashamed to say I haven't put in a single word for you or any of you or anybody

— I can't tell how the time goes I am sure. Mrs. Bell & myself and the boys are building a boat house — and there is a family of eight with most of the time one to three guests there is always a good deal to be done to keep things going, and not make the work burdensome to a few — somebody must go over to Mrs Wolfs for apples — or down to "the Hermits" for berries — or to Mrs Wilkinsons for butter — or up to Mrs Dunbars for a pair of chickens — and it is daily — for Mrs Bell says that no matter how indisposed her family may be (with neuralgia for instance) they exhibit a wonderful and encouraging persistency in their efforts at the table.

Now this isn't much for a letter but I hope you will take the will for the deed — and not punish me by being so long in answering as I have been — an appeal in which I think not the whole family would unite when they write me.

Yours most cordially

W. L. Bell

P.S. You doubtless read Grant Allen's reply to Ward on "Our Better Halves" question – and noticed that Allen availed himself of the very points wherein our friend had laid himself open to attack by unguarded and extravagant statements – But Allen in turn makes admissions unconsciously that subvert entirely the force of his rejoinder and I shouldn't wonder if Ward picked him up – only perhaps he has "other fish to fry"

926 Grant Ave
Rockford Ills
Sept 5th/89

My dear Mr Deane:-

I have a standing request, I believe, to supply you with the autographs of distinguished American botanists. I hope I am guilty of no breach of courtesy in sending one from a person still living- Also with no reference to this autograph- not the slightest -is it not queer that a citizen -"a free and enlightened citizen of this great and glorious republic"- may become a "Professor of Botany and Forestry" a "Master of Arts"- a "Master of Science" and a "Doctor of Philosophy" and yet not be able to write a single sentence of good English- nor to propound what is evidently felt to be a delicate question in any other than the rudest and most indelicate terms? On the whole -for the credit of the fraternity you may as well suppress this example — a request all the more feelingly put since my name appears at the top!

We returned from Lauderdale just a week ago to-day and already begin to feel fairly settled — things in place — the children started in school — and so on. It is not improbable, now, that wife and I may return to the cottage about the last of this month — partly for the quiet and rest (not that we need it only we like to get off once-in-a-while just for a few days by ourselves) — partly to enjoy the autumnal tints of the landscape — above all to transplant native shrubs to places on the shore, where the former owner (an ignorant "granger") cut them all away "to clean up the lot and make it saleable".

Your last letter was welcome as your letters always are. Had the flesh not been so awfully lazy the promptings of the spirit might have tossed back another letter to Marquis on the way.–

Looking a little after 6 pages of the Manual has taught me a wholesome respect for the ability that looks after 600. I am not surprised to learn that Mr Watson is "entirely devoted" to the Manual.

I did not make a single specimen – not one. Once I had in my hands some splendid plants (botanically speaking) of Epilobium molle – fine foliage – fine fruit and flowers beautifully expanded – Conscience reproved. But like the Englishman called by his servant at midnight to see the sun sweep the horizon in northern Norway – I thought I would wait till next year! –

I am glad you mentioned Wallace's book to me – I will certainly send it – I enjoyed very much indeed his Malay Archipelago – and Island Life – I like the man anyway. He displayed such a noble spirit in yielding gracefully his independent discovery of Natural Selection to Darwin – a spirit matched by Darwin's manliness and magnanimity in acknowledging the courtesy —

I shall be glad – I need scarcely say as much – to read Mr Morong's letter —

I have never known W W Bailey personally – but off and on through a period of ten years we have written to each other – when either could help – most frequently I myself being the solicitor of some datum yielded by Olney's herb. – or the library of "Brown"

I looking forward to next winter as promising a season of quiet Willow work – all after my own sweet will – nothing that "must be in by January 1st" I love to potter and hate to be hurried

Did I tell you that after my guess that the Hookerian specimens of S. Hookeriana were really collected by Scouler on the "N.W. Coast" I have turned up positive and conclusive evidence that such in fact was the case!

Yours cordially

M S Bebb

926 Grand Ave
Rockford Ills
Sept 18th/89

My dear Mr Deane

I thank you for the pleasure which the reading of Mr Murrays letters has afforded not only myself but family and friends as well. What a bright, energetic, hopeful spirit in what a sinewy little body! I fancy our friend is as well in body and mind as that much extolled Paraguayan climate, regular habits and congenial occupations can make him. Much is due no doubt to that exhilaration which change of climate is so likely to induce - much to regular habits - and and enthusiastic mental stimulus accompanying out-of-door exercise. Mere "constitutional" trudging I take no stock in. I was reading only the other day in St Nicholas

of the wonderful mental activity
of little Helen Keller - but it
occurred to me that her entire
mind force was concentrated
upon her studies - not unconsciously
dissipated by the thousand and
one impressions through all the
senses ~~of~~ which other children
happily receive as part and parcel
of a full life. Even in Mr
Wrongs letters you read between
the lines his isolation from the
busy life of the Nineteenth Century -
he goes to market - he studies the
native flora - he sleeps well nights -
no dissipation - no magazines - no
hilarious frolics with wife and
children - no clubs - no friends to
entertain - Now don't imagine
for a moment that I am going
on to prove that anybody - say
MSRB for instance - might by ~~of~~ concentrating
all his faculties in one channel
~~might~~ do just the same thing -
Our friend's activity at his age
is wonderful - so is Helen Keller

a wonder. The idea I am driving at is that in both instances the ~~the~~ achievements which seem so extraordinary are in part explicable by conditions which enforce concentration of mind.

After what you have written I am really and truly ashamed of myself that I did not preserve those plants of Epilobium molle – But depend upon it – if I go to Lauderdale next summer. your herbarium shall no longer lack a full representation of this species –

I can not trust myself to allude to the shadow of sadness and anxiety which hung over you when your letter was written – I gather from what you write – and some things said by Mr Morong that your father is sinking under the weight of years.

I know not what "three score and ten" may bring of weariness but just starting from the shady side of life and passing the 50th mile stone is enough to convince me that the loosening of our hold on the affairs of this life is gentle, inevitable— and not ungrateful— We ripen and drop— a heavy drowsiness overtakes us— the circle that was once complete with our own intense self consciousness as a centre has drifted over the river— little by little— till at last the centre itself is moved up to the dividing line— the circle overlaps almost as much beyond as on the hither side— and then ~~it~~ ~~fades away~~ the centre itself fades away from us— but we are still left within its boundary of love and affection—

Sincerely yours

M. S. Bebb

926 Grant Ave
Rockford Ills
Oct 17th/89

My dear friend

Did I tell you: Wife and I went up to Lauderdale for two weeks partly to enjoy the autumnal landscape, partly to do some work which could not well be accomplished while the whole family were occupying the cottage. The very day after I got there I went over to the sphagnum bog to see if Ep. molle might not yet present good fruiting specimens. but it had gone by entirely. However for my own benefit and for material from which to draw a peace offering to a disappointed friend I did pick up other things that presented themselves as not without interest. The first of them was the autumnal foliage of Betula pumila. Your herbarium is different from mine if among all your specimens you have other than the leaves taken along with fruiting aments - Then the shrub makes its annual growth - and stores up doubtless the resource for next seasons drain in flowering, and fruitage, later - and I was quite surprised to find the leaves so much larger at this season than they are represented by all the specimens I had seen -

Next an *Aster* which I take to be the form of *A. paniculatus* same mentioned by Dr Gray Syn of Flora Vol 1. pt II p 188. as "A small and slender form in Northern sphagnum bogs with linear leaves - resembling *A. longifolius* in habit and foliage" - This may be familiar enough *to you*. It is hard for me to realize that every botanist is not so unfamiliar with the plants of a "cold sphagnum bog" *as I am myself*.

Is Patterson selling out his herbarium - or only selected duplicates? - What is the matter with the poor fellow anyway? He was all enthusiasm about botany - then came a season when his own name and those of a lady associate appeared on his labels - then a brief notice of his marriage - and that was the last of botany - excepting one doleful letter two or three years later about the disposition which he then proposed to make of his collection - He is not in robust health - that I know - He may have found greater satisfaction in other directions of activity. but I am sorry we lost him as a botanist.

Your allusion to Salix amygdaloides as a desideratum reminds me that good, characteristic leaves of this species are among my little collection made at Lauderdale -

I have not gotten down to any regular winter's work - if work it may be called - hence the big pockets have not as yet been made the convenient catch all for questions to be fired at my friend N. D. but there is one thing I have long had in mind to inquire about and will mention now _ that is *Salix acutifolia*. Is mention made of this species in the Flora Boreali Americana _ and if so will you please *copy* for me all that may be therein given _ No hurry _ anytime you happen to think of it when the Flora is within your reach _

I am glad to learn that Mrs Deane finds herself so much the better for her summers outing _ but *you* *you*, *Walter Deane* _ troubled with "*dyspepsia*"! *Well you are a paradox anyway!* Now in days gone by I knew that my friend Jesup had *dyspepsia* _ I suspected it long before he told me that his "sands were nearly run out" and he had taken to botany as a diversion &c &c _ (He's alive and well still so far as I know) but I never should have *suspected* *you*.

Yours cordially

M. S. Bebb

926 Grand Ave
Rockford Ills
Nov 18th/89

I do sympathize with you - my dear friend - and with your desolate mother. I can not but think of the great tie which has been broken, however gently, and of the consequences that must follow. For such a loss is one which oppresses not so much with a sense of immediate sorrow as with the feeling that the void which has been left is one that can never be filled. Counsels heretofore relied upon are lost: burdens heretofore resting upon his shoulders must now be borne by others.

From the very little gathered from your letters - a mere suggestion perchance - here and there - I think of your father as a student, as one who had achieved an honorable position in life. as the "the bright centre of the household". And at last in the fullness of years. he "quietly dropped off, to sleep" Enviable Career! Away with the philosophy, that would crush our hearts with the conviction that this is the end of such a life!

Sometime – I would not ask it now. I wish you would tell me something of your parentage.

Of other matters in response to your letter of a week ago I will write later.

Mrs Babb and the children wish to unite with me in the expression of sympathy –

Sincerely yours
W G Babb

926 Grand Ave
Rockford Ills
Nov 26/89

My dear Mr Doane:—

I grew to manhood before the war. Character, aspirations, ideas concerning the conduct of life all received a decided coloring if not a decided bias from the *then* existing social conditions. I have tried ineffectually to adjust myself to the change. No! that is not a precise statement of the fact. I have *not tried*! I have held on, rather, as nearly as possible to the old ideals and *tried ineffectually* to realize them. That's it! I have an old fashioned fire place built of brick – no veneer of encaustic tiles. A pair of antique wrought iron *dogs* to support the "forestick" of hickory and the "back log" of maple (hickory for its ruddy cheerful blaze. maple for the bed of glowing embers into which it falls down late in the evening) A sturdy oak mantel the whatever merit

or demerit it may possess has
this much at least to be said
in its favor that nobody would
suspect its having been bought
at a cabinet shop to be screwed
to the chimney breast for ornament.
The children aver that "father designed
this fireplace and then built the
house around it" and they are not
far from the truth.

Pardon this apparently gratuitous
intrusion of my own personal
affairs but I wanted you to realize
(and I did not know how better I
could bring you to realize) that in
the very nature of the case the
contemplation of such a life as
that of your father could not but
excite in me the deepest feeling
of admiration! Would to Heaven
that the class of business men to
which he belonged was not so
nearly extinct! I have read with
much satisfaction the slips herewith
returned but best of all is your
letter, so brimming with vivid
personalities as to make me feel

as if I had been admitted to the bosom of a delightful household. My boys have no grand-father living but they are quite of one mind in recognizing grandfather Waterston as an ideal which they would be overjoyed to realize in the Bebb family.

Now that I know you have a brother living in Chicago I should hope to have the pleasure, sometime, of welcoming you and yours to Rockford: and while my wife and family would enjoy the visit socially almost equally with myself, I would have one advantage over them when I got you cornered in the herbarium next to the cases of Willows. Whether you wouldn't find Willows something of a bore before I let you off is an open question!

It will be only a pleasure to revise Mr Rand's collection. I always enjoy looking over such illustrations of a local Willow flora — a pleasure near akin to botanizing in the open with mosquitoes - wet feet and fatigue left out. You may send the package anytime but unless Mr Rand particularly desires that it receive immediate attention I would rather not *promise* to report till after Jan 1st.

I must not omit to thank you for the transcription from Hooker's Fl. Bor-Amer.

Yours sincerely

M. S. Bebb

P.S. Commend me to the Bot. Gazette for courtesy to contributors! They not only have never charged me a cent for reprints, but when Coulter found that none had been made of my No IV Willow Notes of his own accord - (and not giving me a chance to countermand) he had the matter *set up again* and the prints made. And I can not get a word out of him as to what the work cost.

926 Grant Ave
Rockford Ills
Dec 10th /79

My dear Mr Deane— I ought to have acknowledged, without delay, the safe arrival of the package of Mr Deane Salices and am ashamed of myself for having neglected to do so. I have only made a hasty reconnoissance of the collection in hand and must defer a report in detail till I can give the specimens a more careful examination. As a whole the collection reminds me of one made by Mr Fowler years ago in New Brunswick— As you may surmise I, like our friend Mr E Faxon, was interested and surprised to find S. balsamifera so finely represented. In the main the determinations are correct— save that one species (represented by leaves only) is confounded ~~[illegible]~~ in a number

A visitation with [illegible] —!
that of all this more anon —

No! You have not sent me recently "a letter" from Mr Murray. The last I had from you was a whole envelope full — three long letters if I remember aright — about the time we came home from the Lakes — Mr Murray's last communication to the Gazette but exhibits in some parts the freedom and dash of his private letters to yourself — otherwise his public utterances have been to me disappointing — Not that I did not read them with interest — but only that I feel how far short they fall of the sparkling humor — the vivid description — even the fast communication — of his letters which you have so kindly shared with brother botanists —

This is another of my letters written against time — to send down street by the school children — I am always ashamed of them — but in the present instance less ashamed

If any [illegible] of [illegible] account them I should [illegible]
[illegible] continued silence — yours ever [illegible]

926 Grand Ave
Rockford Ills
Dec 21st/89

My dear Mr Deane:—

Delays are apt to become chronic at this season and I therefore make an effort to return at once Mr Morong's letters which you were very kind to send me. Wife and I have enjoyed the little unconscious revelations of character quite as much as anything else in the letters,

I hope to hear from Mr Rand before reporting on the Mt Desert Willow. but father to nine children and grandfather to four more I don't think of such an absurdity as doing botanical work these days.—

Your autograph letter from "Dear old Dr Darlington" you must prize— By the way I have an old photograph of Darlington— Dr Gray told me twenty years ago - when I remarked upon its absence from his collection that there was none - all the same I have one. If you would care to see it I will enclose it to you - It is a very faint - poor specimen of photography as compared with the pictures of to-day. On the other hand it possesses the merit of not being "sandpapered" -

You can't tempt me to say another word about the evanescent line between fragilissima - and fragilis × alba. While I have somehow arrived at a definite judgement of my own as between the views of Wimmer Braun & the German botanists generally and Hooker, Baker and the English school - this anent your last sending -

Wishing you and yours a Happy Christmas I remain, as ever

Cordially your friend

M S Bebb

926 Grant Ave
Rockford Ills
Dec 29th/89

My dear Mr Deane:—

From early morn when the youngsters came tumbling down stairs before it was yet light to explore the depths of their stockings until late in the evening, when the last member of the family put out the lights and went—(rather tired withal)—to bed we had one of just the merriest, happiest Christmases imaginable. Not a ripple of discontent to mar the enjoyment of the family festivity. The children were hilarious and the old folk serenely content. The demon of Misfit who stalks abroad at this season overcoming some good, kindly, well-intentioned souls. happily brought not a single one of our friends under his baleful spell. On the contrary many a little gift was rendered thrice welcome because it at once recalled some wish expressed months ago and forgotten. save as loving remembrance on the part of others carried it on to the joyous season of good will to all. There was only one mail delivery, that early in the forenoon. so along about 5. P.M. the boys went down to the Office to see if there was perchance *anything else* come. I was the only lucky one. got your letter of the 22d brim full of the Christmas spirit and (I rather imagine to the envy of the rest of the family) had my season of curiosity and pleasant anticipation prolonged for "2 or 3 weeks" - Something "quite botanical", that "you know I will like" and "so english you know"! Well I am completely beat! Had you written from St Petersburg instead of England I could imagine half-a-dozen things you might by some out of Russia - presents, have gotten for me that I never could get for myself but why you should send clear across the Atlantic to England for a little token of remembrance I can not imagine - Something not to be had in Boston of course - and that shuts out so much that the margin left for guess work seems a mere blunder -

I had intended to send you by this time a thin package-little of Willows stiffened with a few fresh gatherings made at Lauderdale last autumn. But I have a general job that I want to do first. I have most decisively come to the conclusion that it will not pay (in a good sense of the word) to continue the distribution of the Herb. Salicum - I suppose I have at least 20 numbers already made up into sets - these sets I am intending to unmake - getting all the specimens of each sort together again - and then I will send ~~them~~ specimens to only such persons as will really care to have them. It would have been better if I had thus imparted years ago much material that has lain in

my store room unused by any one -
fading with age - liable to injury &c
Only one draw back to this - Only one
thought that gives me a twinge
of conscience - Ten of the numbers
(perhaps more) were sent to me
with the understanding that the
material was to be distributed
in a continuation of the
Herb. Sal. - some of them (Allens
Labrador plants for instance)
so long ago that I have now
lost all track of my whilom
correspondent and do not even
know his P.O address or as the
explain - I imagine that he has
given up botany - but anyway
I'd sooner return the material
than undertake to distribute it -
Some of the ~~first~~ sets of the

1st Fasciculi distribution were never even acknowledged - some were acknowledged by a brief note of thanks on a postal card - and a very few were appreciated even beyond merit. I like best to make up a parcel for some definite person - to have my material all together and make a judicious selection -

If you and Mrs Deane would only visit this brother in Chicago next summer - then it would be only a few hours ~~to~~ ride to Lauderdale - and then if you could bear to have shaken up the traditional ideas of propriety which we of the rowdy west are apt to conceive as dominating the conduct of good Bostonians what a jolly good time we could have with us! -

The whole family are not around me - I take good care that they shall not be when I am writing letters - but I know I shall be taken to task if they are not all included in wishing you and yours a happy New year -

Cordially, Bebb

926 Grand Ave
Rockford Ills
Jan 3rd/90

Dear Mr Deane

I am dull and spiritless this morning - the natural reaction no doubt from two weeks holiday excitement - Will you deem it a compliment - or not - that I dare to write you a letter in such a mood?

The photograph of Dr Darlington (is it copied from an old daguerreotype - I can not make out.) will gratify your curiosity for the passing moment - It is probably not as good a likeness of the old gentleman - taken at his best - as you already have in the steel engraving received from Mr Townsend - (By the way

You doubtless know of the unique fresco paintings in the Bank at Chester — unique and pleasing strange one generation ago and impossible now — over one door a picture of Darlingtonia — over the other of Townsendia!

I wish I could have been with you and my friend Thayer at the gray Herbarium to have caught a bit of your enthusiasm. Here at the west the laboratory botanists have smothered out all growth and development of the old sort — I have made a few feeble kicks — but they are the idle kicks of an old fogy — We used to have and not so very many years ago at that — a group of enthusiastic field botanists in Illinois — but they are all dead or "inactive" — and no younger ones take their place — We have a first class high school now in this city — all the modern improvements laboratory and a gymnasium this way. I wish I could found both and send the students afield for healthful exercise of both mind and body!

Did you know how fast [illegible] engravings [illegible] come? The [illegible] are quite excited in the little [illegible] over the question of drawing [illegible] by electricity. I sent the freshmen on the [illegible], to me it [illegible].

There is only one thing [illegible] Mr. Morse's [illegible] and this is a thorough treatment with the history of [illegible] to explain. It will be a [illegible] for the [illegible] of the "[illegible] back" [illegible] years ago I gave in the Gazette a translation of M. Lenormand's account of his method which struck me as very good.

Fred. Thanks [illegible] my wife is [illegible] "all" [illegible] the [illegible] — and you

[illegible] yet one of on an expedition
alone — if this your decision. For all
the botanical party [illegible] the [illegible]
[illegible] flora of South America
[illegible] — [illegible]
[illegible] other letters!

I have not as yet heard from
[illegible] by the [illegible] your
"[illegible]" [illegible] in the [illegible] your
[illegible] —

Cordially,
[illegible]

926 Grand ave
Rockford Ills
Jan 7/13th 1890

Dear Mr Deane:-

Your N. B. Willows were rec^{d} yesterday: in fact they went to church in my overcoat pocket. One specimen - leaves only very white-wooly beneath is _Salix candida_. the other two, forms of _S. longifolia_ from a station farther "down east" than the plant has ever been found before! Will you please ask your correspondent to collect this _for me_ next season, either sending the specimens direct by mail - or through your hands. The willows are about the only thing now that I _make an effort_ to keep up in my herbarium - taking other things thankfully but *as they come*. - The Willows I like to have fully illustrated - as to form - *distribution* &c. -

Here is a slip from the hip pocket. When you are next in the Gray herb. kindly ascertain for me the *date of publication* of Benthams *Plantae Hedwigianae* (also is that the correct spelling?)

I must tell you something about Salix fragilis and so proudly prove the wisdom of my recent taciturnity. There is a Dr. Buchanan White who is shortly to publish a paper in the Linnean Journ. whom Baker says is "the best Willow-man of the present generation in Britain". - B. gave me a note of introduction and I have just had a good letter from the Scotchman. Now what do you think of this *just for instance* "I think I have got to the bottom of the confusion about Smith's *Russelliana*. It has often been referred to *fragilis × alba* but is nothing of the kind. It is *fragilis* pure and simple. Smith's *fragilis* on the other hand is not the Linnean species but *fragilis × alba* *there*!! "From this mistake of Smith's endless confusion has arisen" — I should say, as much. Again "the ordinary British form of *fragilis* is not the same as the continental form" (this I knew before) — and so things are all in a toss and before the manual is out I am ready with corrections and emendations for the next edition! And some wise MacCarthy (an Irishman man any way) "rose up on his hind legs" a few years ago

and gravely informed us that
all the work that could be
done here in systematic
botany had been done,
finished up and shelved,
by "Torrey - Gray - and Oh! my
goodness - "Vasey!" The paper
was published in the Trans of the
Maria Mitchell Institute or some
other trust - and the author sent
me a copy all marked and
scored up with direful intent to settle me right down
into the earth on account of
something I had printed in
the Gazette about the Laboratory
botanists -

Cordially
Bebb

926 Grand Ave
Rockford Ills
June 9th/90

Dear Mr Deane:—

I was busy all the forenoon of yesterday copying portions of Barratts letters to Mr Abraham Halsey (1835) and making notes. The letters are the property of Columbia College and are loaned to me by Dr Britton. Tired of writing, in the afternoon I changed off to a job that kept me on my legs until 4 o'clock. Then I was tired all over. Happily just as I was through and had put away my work there came to hand the tribute to the memory of your father: (your letter had been received in the morning) and I threw myself into an easy chair and read every word of it — from your personal monograph —

the title page to the last of Mr Smiths articles which I enjoyed more on the re reading, for having meanwhile since you first sent it to me, learned so much more of the character and career of your father — The peculiarity of your fathers mental endowment — viz his ability to bring forth at will the most out-of-the-way and obscure facts of early Colonial history, reminds me forcibly of my dear old friend J. H. Russell Esq with whom I was for several years associated in the Pension Office — we having charge together of the same division. One of Mr Russells sons was Colonel of the 3d Mass Colored Infantry — and the father always considered himself a Massachusetts man though he was appointed to the Pension Office from Ohio — having been, just before, one of the editorial corps of the Cincinnati Commercial. Coming down to financial affairs however — the contrasts provokes a smile for Mrs Russell had a family of daughters of which she was very proud and for whom she was inordinately ambitious. The consequence was that the family expenses were kept so close up to the family income that the least strain brought a break down. I think Mr R had failed twice in business before he found a safe harbor and a bit of peace as a government clerk. But I am thinking with my pen, all this will have no interest for you

Of whom do you get your sketch paper and how much does it cost you? I have always bought in rather large lots, getting thereby the trade discount. But the other day in getting things ready for the winter's work I was surprised to find that my stock of mounting paper was run so low that I had not enough for immediate use –

If you have a supply on hand could you spare me a ream – or half ream – till I can find time to turn around and replenish my stock. Be perfectly frank and say no – if compliance is going to inconvenience you in the least. – I only want to mount a lot of Willows – and am already half inclined to tear up this half sheet and let the specimens lie in packing papers a while longer

Did you meet Prof Dudley? What manner of man is he?

I was looking over the book for a little list of your desiderata among my Willows but did not find it – It may turn up – I recall S. amygdaloides – arctica = Brownii, S. adenophylla and some myrtilloides &c –
Did I send you my petiolaris x cordata hybrids – or S. vestita Pursh Coll Allen.

Yours cordially
M S Bebb

926 Grand Ave
Rockford Ills
June 15th/93

Dear Mr Deane:—

If you are quite sure that you can let me have a ream of your mounting paper without running short yourself, before an opportunity to replenish your stock turns up I will be very glad to profit by your generosity.— Otherwise you had better let me tackle Dr Watson. The next time you join with a few friends in ~~[illegible]~~, send an order your mounting paper please let me in with you for I feel that from this out my requirements will be much less than they were ever and I will have need to avail myself of the advantages such a combination gives.— Like yourself I began by being let in with Dr Gray's large orders. The paper was sent to me direct from the manufacturer but at the same rate charged Dr G. Once when the paper was not satisfactory Dr Gray made them take it all back "grind it over and finish" according to specifications" I suppose. Fancy MSB having the "force of character" to get a thing like that done for himself! When Dr Gray went to Europe this arrangement ended and I was left to shift for myself. So long as I had 2-3000 sheets to mount during a winter I got on well enough but that sort of work. I mean that extent of general curator work is a thing of the past for me. I could not do it even if I wanted to. I have neither the time nor the physical ability. A few reams now and then will keep the millers going and that is about all I purpose doing.

Have read Morong's letters with much interest. They have the dash and sparkling humor of his first accounts of life in Asuncion. Those given before seemed to me to betoken dullness. lack of zest as if his work were accomplished and like all accomplished work the dull as well as the rest of it looked less worthy the doing ~~[illegible]~~ than it did in anticipation. I am glad I have some willows to send you that will be new to your herb. Do not hasten to make out your list of desiderata. I will surely find the red one. It cannot be altogether lost. only mislaid

926 Grant Ave
Rockford Ills
Jan 26th/90

Dear Mr Dane:—

I am shut in, or should I say rather held in by the grip; having just pulled through what kind friends upon consultation insist are pleased to call the meanest stage of the disease. I feel all washed out and bedraggled anyway — and here it is almost the end of January! Twenty times a day I think of the energetic housekeeper who called up her maid-of-all-work Monday morning, with "Jane! Jane! get right up. Don't you know this is wash morning, tomorrow is ironing and next day cleaning the chambers, half the week gone and not a thing done yet!"

I want to thank you however — no matter how dull and thick headed I may feel — for the ream of nice historical paper. Of course it will differ a little — as differences make always — from any I have ever had before, and as most of it will be used to answer letters I shall have no end of reminders scattered all through the [illegible] of my heart this is and most of the friends who helped out when a pinch came!

I should say from the rubbing the fol. received on edges and corners that your precautions in the way of careful packing - pasteboards and plenty of cotton were wisely taken.

Is it the intention in your book to secure as full an illustration as possible of the flora of a definite district - and if so what are your limits. Assuming that the plants inside the boundary lines take receive prime consideration, how about an occasional stepping over in Salix.

I have found, and enclose, the list which I had circulated - but I see it relates only to the Nat. Sal. and I think in the great majority of instances your [illegible] were not supplied in any of the lot. The numbers [illegible] & 33 I recall as belonging to a [illegible] of which the "type" [illegible] never been found.

When Patterson printed his numbered check-list four or five years ago he sent me a lot of extra pages of Salix but unluckily all the prints of one page got mislaid by P. so that I never could use either - yesterday I was surprised and pleased to get a letter from him - and also the long lost pages. I enclose the two which may be a convenience in making your determinations - As Patterson wants me to revise Salix for a new check list I shall have little use now for these old pages.

As far as I can rely upon the present muddled condition of my recollection of Salix - these are all I [illegible] you [illegible] -

Sincerely

M S Bebb

926 Grant Ave
Rockford Ills
Jan 29/98

"_Pretend_"! — Why! — my dear fellow, I should be only too delighted if my poor la-grippe-be-fogged faculties would yield some _adequate expression of the fact_ — let alone getting beyond that — _How like you it all is_! seeing a copy at Mrs Gray's and thinking of the pleasure the picture would give your friends — for I by no means count myself the only recipient. I am so glad to have it, and _so glad of the friendship which prompted the giving_. The picture came yesterday, 12 hours ahead of your letter so we had it to puzzle over last evening. Dr Gray's face and "Manchester" suggested a group of attendants at the British Association meeting, but there were so many faces absent that I *did know* and so many present that I *did not know* I questioned if it could be a group of botanists. The central figure in the standing row especially drew my attention. Who could it be? I never so much as once thought of Dr Weismann - "Oh a wise old man is he - is he" - it sticks out all over! Carruthers of whom I have never seen a picture before seems the level-headed fellow of great executive ability - I have imagined. The girls say Vines is a dude - "See" exclaims Mattie - "he is the only one that wears button boots." But his is a good face - *winning*! One would like him for next door neighbor. Shall I say it the one face in the whole group which is disappointed - is that of Thistleton-Dyer. Can it be that this man fills the chair occupied by three generations of Hookers! Saporta's face - like the faces of most French men of science - is noticeable for the absence of French characteristics

I intend to have the picture appropriately framed as soon as I can get out to attend to the matter - with the name of the donor carved in the frame.

In conclusion let me beg of you if there appears anything wanting in this which should be an expression of my sense of your kindness to charitably charge it not to any lack of appreciation - but rather to sheer inability to say the things which the heart prompts.

Yours sincerely

M L Bell

926 Grand Ave
Rockford Ills
Feb 2d/90

Dear Mr Deane

I had fortunately gone over Mr Rand's collection two weeks ago carefully examining and naming every specimen. There therefore remained but to get the things together and pack. Some notes that I had in mind I can perhaps give later. As you suggest I return Brittains Salices and with them I have ventured to send you some extracts from Dr Barratts letters which I wrote out in the first place (as the careless Ms sufficiently attests) for myself alone. It occurred to me that here and there a passage might be interesting to you - side lights as it were on the doings of botanists in New England A.D 1835. No haste about returning - sometime within the year I am going to send you a little packagelette - for which you may be pleased to return some of your good things and it can come back to me then -

If any old bummer getting over a big drunk suffers from more nausea - debility - dizziness and frontal head-ache than I have for several days; and I should think a single experience *sufficient* to guarantee perfect reformation - Pray, find out for me, *sub rosa* - how far Rand is satisfied with my work on his Willows - and if there are points left which he had hoped to find cleared up which I have neglected - if you will just drop me a hint I *may* be able to make good the unintentional deficiency - I *remember* such solicitude very distinctly!

Yours cordially
Bebb

Feb. 1890

[illegible]

[illegible]

926 Grant Ave
Rockford Ills
Feb 8th/90

Dear friend Deane:-

I am still confined to my room, very weak and good for nothing. Cannot even read. But Dr Watson has sent me an advance copy of the new Manual and I can dip into that - here and there - look over a few pages and then lay back and think about it - thank fortune la grippe does not taboo thinking. Bailey-Carex is admirable, evincing a firm and consistent treatment throughout that is a great improvement over the "Conspectus" of a few years ago. Someday when I feel more in the mood I would like to write a whole letter about Carex - The lightning seems to be striking so close in this Epilobium molle business ~~and~~ I want to ask you that even if you do acquire specimens before I get a chance to collect for you at Lauderdale to please ~~I~~ not let me know! I've quite set my heart upon sending such a setting up in E. molle as will throw all the rest of your *Epilobium* sheets quite in the shade!!! Only is'nt it funny that after all I will never be able to send you *E. molle* at all— *E. strictum* Muhl will answer the same purpose! I long to get at my Asters especially of the Salicifolii § and rearrange them according to the Synoptical Flora— the herbarium work affording the best and most reliable means of fixing in my mind the changes in nomenclature.

Thanks for the account of the Willows in your herbarium which "explains your wants" in the most satisfactory manner. "When on your [my] sheets there is a specimen of fr or fl & one of leaves does it mean that they came from the same plant?" *Yes!*— The cases you speak of where ♂ & ♀ fls are given under the same number ~~and~~ were where no special importance attached to the relaxing very poorly pressed specimens and fixing them over. A poor specimen of a common plant is mere trash and had best be thrown into the waste basket but among the "grab ups" of explorers &c I often receive specimens of very rare plants- looking as if they had been dried in the crown of a hat. I have tried laying these between folds of blotting paper and saturating with alcohol- afterward spreading out and drying under immense pressure- *Just* an ordinary heavy pressure does not take out the wrinkles and there are no soft tissues to be injured by *over*- pressure- You may know a better way.

I have just heard from Mr Rand who seems pleased with my work on his Willows, *glad he is satisfied* for *I* felt kind-o-shaky about it myself -as if the result *was* *scarcely* commensurate with the expense and trouble of sending me the collection- I *do wish* I could feel like doing something

Yours cordially
M. S. Bebb

mating of the leaves: If I remember this old business aright, only once or twice in S. sericea — and S. purpurea. The leaves of rostrata, ♂ and ♀, belong respectively with the fls & fr accompanying — so also S. glaucophylla &c, S. adenophylla (and some others collected by other parties) some were so given because the material I received was not thus carefully taken in the first place —

The group of European Botanists occupies a prominent place on the mantel and attracts the attention of friends who happen in — I take great pleasure in telling them something about the more prominent personages — and also in quietly letting it be known how I came into possession of the picture — None of your common place affairs to be had by anybody with money to spend in the shops!

Have you had any experience in

Rockford Ill.
Feb. 24-1890.

Dear [illegible]

Sick a bed [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] little [illegible]
[illegible] all that. Please
to speak up [illegible] few days.

As ever yours
[illegible]

926 Grant Ave
Rockford Ills
Nov 27/90

My dear friend Deane:–

In response to Mrs Gray's wish that I should express to you "my opinion as to what she ought to do with the Gray Vase" I do not hesitate to reply, leave it in the Harvard College. Dr Gray has himself led the way in bequeathing to Harvard his Herb. and Library – everything representing or associated with his life-work, and it seems to me eminently fitting that the vase should accompany these generous bequests. My own idea would be – since I am invited to say freely just what I think – to have the vase inclosed in a plate glass case – perfectly safe

and *immovable* and then let it
stand in some appropriate place
either in the Herbarium or the
Library. Whatever value the same
may possess *purely as a work of
art* — upon which consideration alone
must rest the claims of the Art
Museum — seems to me altogether
subordinate to its higher value as
a token of love and esteem from
the botanists of America.

A word to yourself (*not* to *be repeated*)
Had Dr Gray ~~Gray~~ really left direct
descendants — the "heirloom" claim would
have so overweighed everything else as to
leave no ground for question. — For
this is really a personal affair — the
vase was a gift to Dr Gray as a man
from friends who in their hearts were
glad of the opportunity to render some
expression of their regard — but —
circumstances alter cases —

I came down stairs for the first
Thursday P.M. How bright and cheerful
the dining living room did look to
me! I made for my old place on the
lounge, glad enough to be so far back
again – Dr Kerr – pastor of the Liberal
church of this place and a very genial
gentleman called. Then Mrs Van Arsdale one
our bright friends who has a happy
way – all her own – of not trimming her
expressions to suit what she might fancy
the tastes and prejudices of her interlocutors,
Then I went out to tea with the family –
Oh, I tell you a fellow needs a rough one –
for how [illegible] [illegible] an [illegible] to make
him appreciate his blessings! To bed early,
like a good boy. I am comfortable, only
if I do nothing – but very weak –

I am so glad you and [illegible] seem
more pleased with the second form
of our home-keeper; glad that the one

"motherly" seemed so spontaneous in the Mrs Deane. Someday when I can trust myself to talk about her without running into something spooney I will tell you what she has been to me. We are all expecting Mrs D.s picture now! By and by the Betts and the Deanes will be pretty well acquainted in an ideal sort of way.

Thanks for the list of names of the Group. But don't you think it would detract from the general effect to display this list under the picture? Of course I have been unable to do anything as yet about getting a frame.

Since March came in we have had our only real winter weather. Thermometer yesterday at sunrise — 7° Far. this morning — 14°! Snow a foot deep or more on the level. Our icemen have been filling their houses from the Madison Lakes — and now it looks as if they might after all have depended upon the home crop

I enjoyed the slip. What a pity that "the well known Naturalist Leroy Dunstan" should have failed to bring a living specimen of his blood sucker home! I am reminded of a little incident which occurred at the Dubuque Meeting of the A.A.A.S. - years ago - A small group of botanists were conversing with Dr Gray, when an old Californian came up and solicited an introduction to the great botanist - He then went on to tell that out on the Sierra Nevada there was an "amazin curus" plant - It grew right up out of the snow - it rooted in the snow - and yet was bright red - if it was all made of snow how did it get that red color - that was the "amazin curus" thing about it! Now I suppose there was not a person in the group that did not know just as well as Dr G what it was the old fellow had in mind - Red but Ah what one of us would have had the adroitness to reply as he did - He listened attentively until the old fellow was quite through - Then he said "if the circumstances were really as reported" the plant was indeed a most remarkable one - "but now my friend I'll tell you what I wish you would do - Next spring when you find one of these plants dig down in the snow very carefully with your hands until you come to the roots - be very careful to preserve these unbroken - just as you take them out of the snow - and send me the plant!" The Californian departed satisfied and probably the next spring learned a lesson in botany!

I read the article on Calluna in Garden & Forest with much interest,

Yours ever
W L Robb

926 Grant Ave
Rockford Ills
March 3d/90

Dear Mr Deane:—

I thank you, and Mrs Deane, for your kind expressions of sympathy and solicitude concerning my recent sickness. I may have written you how it all came about. There were a succession of warm, spring-like days and I thought I could go out in the open air every day - take a walk - and be the better for it. At last there came a day, clear and sunny, but with a sharp wind from the N. W. which I did not realize the keenness of until I ~~[illegible]~~ turned about to face it homeward bound. When I got back to the house I was pretty thoroughly chilled through. Then came a slight congestion of the

life long with more or less
general febrile disturbance — loss of
appetite — prostration &c — Happily all
passed off at the end of three days —
and I had only to mend — slowly —
and resolve over and over again
to stay in-doors until warm weather
comes. I am very comfortable as
long as I do nothing and writing a
letter like this comes as near to
doing nothing as well can be —

Anna read to me yesterday
Sargents Leader in the last No of
Garden & Forest, Botany for Young People Capital every way —
and also the other articles in the
same No of unusual botanical
interest

Are we not to have in the
Gazette or elsewhere some account of
your last summers botanizing on Mt
Monadnock? I hope so — The Doctor and
my wife say (and their say-so is law at the present
writing) that next summer I must seek light and
agreeable exercise in the open air and I am already fore-
casting a return — as a "veteran reserve" — to the ranks of the
plant collectors — Only think of it — A summer of old
fashioned field botany — after fifteen years retirement

Yours cordially
M S Bebb

926 Grant Ave
Rockford Ills
March 12th/90

Dear friend Deane:-

I imagine that you have had less time at your free disposal this winter than usual and I have therefore rather refrained from firing at you all sorts of questions the answering of which might help to overburden the little you did have — but I want you to tell me how to manage fish glue! Barnes ~~tells me~~ says that you are "fussy particular about your herbarium" — that "everything must lie just so". Then you are my man! I'm fussy-particular myself. Of course my general herbarium, largely formed years ago - is mounted with old fashioned glue - in the use of which I became ("if I do say it myself as shouldn't") quite an expert. - I fancy that I follow too much the old ways in the use of the new material. - Of course I realize that only experience - or direct observation can help much toward the acquisition of what I am after still some hints from one that *knows* how can not help but be useful - Give me some idea of the *consistency*? At what *temperature* do you use it? I like to have my specimens firmly attached and still the the herb sheet not distorted by the drying of the glue -

The specimens which I wished to mount this winter (and for which I begged the ream of paper from you) are not yet even poisoned. Things move slowly, for a fact - and I must just keep pegging away - doing a little each day and it will count up for something sometime - though not for much.

I sympathize with any one who goes through a hard siege in the dentists chair - and only wonder that the incident exhaustion of nerve force does not send every last sufferer home to shiver under a pile of blankets.

I never could get my wife to sit for her picture - I tried and *tried* and *tried*. Last spring she yielded with the express stipulation that the picture was to be just for me - *one* - and after that she to have absolute control of the rest. The first sittings (three negatives) proved unsatisfactory and my heart sank within me. For a fact I never was much more surprised in my life than I was when she willingly consented to try again. We went into the gallery and I plumped her down into the chair and we got that picture in a kind of smash bang between the operator and myself— before the subject had time to think. So much for your encouragement. We shall expect a picture of Mrs Deane almost anytime till it comes—

Take pity on me of the shut in and write me the botanical news— What has become of the Bulletin and Gazette. Here is the middle of March and the February nos of both still back—

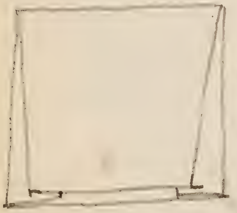
Yours as ever

M. S. Bebb

926 Grand Ave
Rockford Ills
March 19th/90

My dear Mr Deane:—

I have read your letter, received only a few hours ago—over thrice—and feel impelled not-withstanding after dinner stupidity to write and thank you for it. Where your methods exactly coincide with my own I could nod approval—as much as to say yes I know that is the best way—where they were different I could find the suggestion of improvement. Yes! I did _paste_ _that thing_! It seemed to me that to secure the required degree of _fluidity_ and at the same time the necessary _adhesiveness_ I must use the glue warm if not almost hot. There is where I was out. I did not dare thin it up with cold water to the required degree of fluidity—which is something that we all learn to recognize by experience - I think I should not altogether like your glue pot - or rather your arrangement for holding the brush - Your brush must drop too far into the glue - necessitating much wiping off - and the sides of the pot must, with use, get sticky and coated with a gradual accretion of glue - I use two fine copper wires (the finer the better so they are strong enough) stretched tight across the top of the glue pot - one about an inch above the other - Into the handle of my brush I press an ordinary 6oz carpet tack and by this I suspend my brush from the top wire - the wire below holds the brush perpendicular - and by adjusting the tack I can let the tip of my brush dip into the glue any desired depth - Superfluous glue is wiped off on the fine wire where it does not adhere - but drops back into the pot - Your paper pockets are exactly like my own - as like as two years. They used to use at Harvard pockets with the side flaps cut longer and to a point — not nearly so good. In the Kew herb. they make them nearly square. the side flaps not more than half an inch wide. the top flap cut a little tapering and folded down over the side flaps. its lower edge reaching the bottom of the pocket,



something like this. They do not strike my fancy somehow. I have read, with I can not tell you how much interest, your account of a "model" herb. My preconceived notion as to how I used fix up that Epilob. — was all right!. For twenty years I took the greatest pride in the beautiful appearance of my herb. Then came a winter and not spring when it was left in a house for months without a fire. The specimens all got damp and many of them faded. It was a sore trial to me but after a time I mustered courage to discard about 500 sheets after which the remainder did not look so bad ~~after all~~. Even at the best - after twenty or thirty years sheets left undisturbed will get stained - for instance by Myosurus - some Ranunculi and alas some Salices!

I learned long ago ~~by~~ about the use of absorbent paper in gluing - They have in England a whitish, bibulous paper that I imagine is used for driers. I got a lot of plants packed in such sheets and accidentally used a few to paste on, - after that I had no patience with any but absorbent paper - for the reasons you state - I use the same method as yourself in mounting flimsy plants - By-the way did you see a ridiculous plan detailed in the Gazette - to spread a film of thin glue over a ~~sheet~~ pane of glass, then apply your specimen - then lift it. - would not I like to see the fellow do this! Imagine the lifting of Adlumia after it had absorbed a coating of glue! -

- Your saying that you use boats

of pockets is very suggestive - Is it not curious where they all go to? Sometimes when I have leisure I cut out so many that I fancy I am stocked up for five years to come and find all used up in a few months -

I wish Pringle himself would "finish" Plantae Mexicanae and return to his original project of a Flora of the White Mtns. Oh for the coming of the local Flora! Our Manuals have been made to include so much additional territory without exceeding the ~~same~~ number of pages in previous eds that they are become little else than cumbrous analytical keys to the names of species - We want more than that and it can only come in the local Flora -

I am all impatience to have you tell me about your visit from C. G. Lloyd. He once wrote to me :- While I was living at Fountaindale - to inquire of Epilobium palustre grew in that vicinity - I replied that it did - and he immediately sent me a business order for a "ton of the plants", which I was obliged to decline - first on the score of its exceeding my supply of duplicates 2d - because it would exhaust the locality - and still leave my part of the contract unfilled - undischarged.

Tell me how you poison plants? - How do you attach tickets? What kind of gummed paper do you use? - &c &c - In fact write one of your delightful, chatty letters about herbarium matters - As I can not come to see with my own eyes - tell me all the little things you do - and how and why -

I poisoned a lot of Willows this forenoon and will arrange them on Herb. paper - ex herb. Deane - tomorrow -

Write soon -

Cordially

M. S. Bebb

926 Grand Ave
Rockford Ills
April 8th/90

Dear Mr Deane:—

Inclosed please find draft on N.Y. for $12.25: but you do not tell me (as I wanted you to do) how much it cost you to put the box on board cars — Thanks for your kindness, all the way through. I am expecting — any day — to receive notice that the box has reached Rockford — $3.06 per ream, is as you say, lower than I have known good herb. paper to be sold for any time "since the war". The foundation of my herb. was laid in 1858 with paper that cost Dr Gray $3.00 — but the price went up clear out of my reach a few years later — and I accumulated specimens for ten years or

Have you the pods of Astragalus caryocarpus and A. Mexicanus? I can secure 2-3 of each — to which you are welcome if they will help out your showing for these species man - without mounting - simply because the cost was so great -

I have been "cleaning house"! When I came up from Fountaindale (and at odd intervals since) boxes of stuff have ~~been~~ accumulated, that stood sadly in need of overhauling - old vouchers of no special value - old pamphlets - letters - bottles - rubber boxes, containing all sorts of stuff from pills to plants - scraps of all sorts - It was a relief to find that without a minute's hesitation I could send 99 per cent of the stuff to the laundry stove to be burned - I ~~do~~ came across the enclosed paper (which I thought went into the waste basket long ago) - I take malicious delight in sending it on to you. - I had a mind at first to "answer the fool according to his folly," he lays himself so open to ridicule and displays such despicable ignorance - but a moment's reflection convinced me that a gentleman with any ambition to keep his hands clean might better occupy his time - gluing down plants for instance -

I am sorry to read the brief mention of a "2 wks cold" as Rand my mind a certain case – and said to myself now I will draw out the bottom cover of the middle pigeon hole – right hand side – and no matter what I get. upon the contents of that cover I will bestow a half-hours study – The end was that when Mrs B– was ready she had to wait until I put up my things.*

My glue works first rate – Now I want to ask you a few questions – Will the thinned glue keep without the addition of Carbolic acid – and how much must I use if necessary? – They sent me a quart Can instead of a pint. How is it for me to try to keep it – say two or three years? – I surmise from what you wrote about pouring out from the can glue thin enough for immediate use – that you must have poured back into the can the diluted glue of the last preceding job – The glue (of "Gum") which I received is very thick and I think will keep better the less it is disturbed –

I fear from your long silence that you may be ill. Kindest regards to all the family to both Mrs Deane and yourself – Your own Bess

* and I went to bed as wide awake as a lunatic!

does not dismiss the matter quite so curtly - expressing solicitude lest you confined yourself too much indoors &c - *Alas! I realize the temptation*; Perhaps it will be all the better for both of us when we are tempted once again into the open, breezy fields.

By way of recreation I have been exploring portions of my general herb. - haven't thought *Salix* for two weeks - I am both pleased and surprised - it is so much better than I thought. One evening I had nothing to do (I dare not write letters evenings under penalty of lying awake afterwards) and Mrs B- said that she had just a half hour's work which she wished to finish before retiring - I fixed in

926 Grand Ave
Rockford Ills
April 11th/20

My dear Deane—

If I were to to stop a moment to consider:— or if it were any other correspondent than yourself with whom I feel easy in all sorts of moods— this writing would stop instanter— For I feel as if I might do better "s'mother day"— I excuse you for not writing letters when you have a lot of tempting herbarium work to do— As the Dutch justice of the Peace said to a delinquent charged with being drunk on beer.— "I gets drunk on beer myself": Did McCarthy actually send you some plants! Not of his own collecting surely! The fool scarcely knows enough, I fancy, to make a specimen and if he ever did it must have been in some passing mood of mental aberration when the Devil tempting him away from his high service to humanity.

With yours of the 8th inst comes to hand notice from Carter Rice & Co of the shipment of the paper April 8th issue - The freight receipt reads "One Bdle" which gives me a little feeling of uneasiness - However it may come through without the corners being bruised - I do rejoice with you! and hope that the "three days" are but precursors of many more to come!

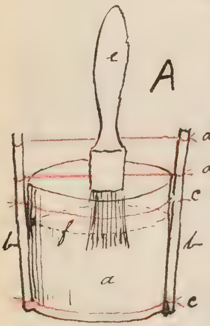
No - You never told me how Mrs D. broke down - Indeed it was incidentally that is through Mary's letters - if I remember aright - that I first got the impression that your wife was - if not an invalid - at least one of that large class (self included) who can neither call themselves well or ill.

Now I must turn to your long letter of the 4th *which we all enjoyed*. My daughters do not hesitate to express *their* opinion that you rather enjoyed that lecture after all - and did not feel as much trepidation as you "let on" - It was a good thing for you to do - and though doubtless you had some unappreciative hearers there must have been many more to whom such a talk would be not only pleasurable at the time, but a lasting stimulus to incite to further study and personal investigation - If we could all - in their quiet, neighborly ways do likewise it would be a good thing all round — only you don't find "Plant Clubs" of 40 members, scattered all over the country - Rockford is spontaneously musical - affectedly literary but doesn't *even pretend* to be scientific

In mounting plants in the old way - before the introduction of fish glue - I learned to be neat and ~~th~~ at the same time expeditious - Expeditious for two reasons - 1st when I had (as I did at that time) so many plants to mount I was anxious to get through and not have the work engross too much of my time - 2d One condition of perfect success was rapidity of execution - so that the plant was in place and under pressure before the glue had time to coagulate - Some of the old ways will cling to me always - because I use them it does not follow that I should advise anyone else to adopt them - I studied every little point where intelligent experience could suggest time-saving. - The wires over the glue pot was one of these - It would be more bother to you to learn a new way than the advantage gained would repay - nevertheless taking your *modus operandi* as given I do not hesitate to affirm that I would of dropping against the wires and letting the tack catch is so simple - The wires do not keep so absolutely clean with the cold glue as with the hot; a drop or two will hang on now and then - but is soon jarred off.

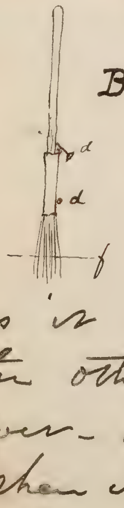
Another contrivance which I used in the old days and still find handy - though the necessity for its use no longer exists, is a platform the height of my work table - over which rises and sinks automatically a press board with a weights - operated by a treadle - As soon as I have a few specimens ready - 1 to 3 usually - I raise the press with my foot - take both hands to slip the driers and intercalated specimens under - drop the press and repeat - till I have a pile about 4 in high - which is then removed and another begun - If I make hard and rapid work of gluing I make easy - deliberate and restful work of putting down tickets - fastening stem ends - and making the acquaintance of fresh acquisitions soon to be consigned to the general herb. and may be forgotten -

I enclose samples of my work in putting on tickets - I never liked any pasting that I ever saw - or ever could do myself - the corners would "dog ear" and look badly. Open any compartment of my herb. and have my specimen - if a small one - all glued before you would be ready to begin - assuming that we worked with equal expedition and that the difference was wholly in the method - I will give a little sketch and diagram as you request. A shows the glue pot as it stands facing me on the table



A

a pot. b, b, small wooden posts held in place by the copper wires c, c. d. d. the wires strung over the pot. e brush - f - surface of glue - In the diagram B - d. d. are dots representing the position of the two wires and show how they hold the brush perpendicular by means of the tack. Now in the very act of lifting my brush I wipe it against the two wires, then as it rises above the top one I wipe the other side without turning the brush over - and I am ready for business - When I am through - for the moment I can almost toss it back, the motion



B.

you will find the sheet *lying* as flat as if there were no labels attached whatever. Although there must be over 50.000 labels put on in this way in my collection - and although I have seen no occasion in the last thirty years to change. I doubt if others would on the whole like it as well as pasting.

In my humble opinion - you - along with the great majority - overdo the poisoning business - you get over cautious and poison where there is no need of it. I have had a growing herb. for thirty years - now filling 280 pigeon holes - and with just one single exception (of which more anon) I have never had a single insect depredator invade my treasured stores - *not one* - and I have had lots of importations, in bundles from abroad. As an illustration I fairly *soak* amounts of Salices - but *rigid leaves* of willows will no more be attacked than so much paper - I poison massed flowers or tender leaves - Euphorbiaceae - Asclepiadaceae - &c - but there are lots and lots of rigid things and portions of specimens which I do not touch at all - I would pour poison *into* the head of a thistle but cannot so a waste of time to poison the leaves - I never saw the specimen yet that I would care to dip - Like yourself. I use driers and a press - I don't like the Harvard way at all - I have seen it performed - It looked like destruction - and so was to a certain extent - of beauty. Oh I came near forgetting the exception. The pests somehow got into my cover of Gonolobus. - Here were specimens that flowers and buds I had thoroughly poisoned, yet the little insects bored up the stems and did such damage before they made themselves sick eating Corrosive sublimate - that I had to replace all the specimens - Notwithstanding the fact that the specimens in this cover were so destroyed - nothing else in the same pigeon hole was disturbed - and the depredations ceased with this single onslaught.

Will Mrs Deane feel relieved by these 8 pages or will she set us down for a pair of incorrigible scribblers? I will send the Astragalus pods as soon as I can find a little box to put them in - Here in your last letter you mention interviews with two botanists! Mr Faxon and Mrs Rand. I do not see a real live botanist once a year   Cordially Rolla

Excuse this awkward paging

926 Grand Ave
Rockford Ill
April 20th/90

Dear Mr Deane

Such a hilarious time as we had over your account of a visit from Mr Lloyd!

It was a week ago - a fact which I virtuously record against myself with conscious shame. Will had started ahead of the rest of us to get the mail - and handed me your letter at the church door - I confess my thoughts would keep wandering, all through the service, in vague wonderments as to what the big envelope might contain - A brisk walk home - for when it is pleasant now-a-days I esteem all street-car conveniences as an invention of Satan - Down I plump myself into an easy chair and begin reading

Presently I must have laughed - and not in the Tony Weller fashion "inwardly," either - for there came a chorus of voices - "What is it?" "Read it aloud!" - And so I went back and began over again - ~~[illegible]~~ I think the fun was contagious - we all took in the ridiculous absurdity of the situation - and as Mr L's imperturbability grew more and more intense (as if the story had been invented by an adroit story-teller rather than being a recital of facts) I laughed until my side ached -

And ~~[illegible]~~ what odd conceit do you imagine took possession of the children? "Now father - you have been corresponding with Mr Deane for a number of years - You think he is energetic and impulsive - you have his photograph to judge by. Suppose he should come west to Chicago - and then on to Rockford just to visit you and should then out such a stick as Mr Lloyd?" I did not consider the case *supposable*! but they rather like to tease me about writing to Mr Deane so often. As you close your graphic account of Mr Lloyd with the desperate explanation that you "never could make me see the man as you saw him" so I in turn can assure you that no words of mine can tell you how vivid your portrayal of Mr Lloyd seemed to us - if not a Mr Lloyd *in esse* - a most amusing and dramatic character all the same - Poor Mrs Deane!!

The herb. paper is at hand in good condition and what do you guess the freight amounted to - *just* *61 cts* - People who are content to go through this route *slowly* - can go

placed in the Herbarium and there the name
being stricken from my list of desiderata tho
one poor snip of a specimen - the work of a
beginner - remained the sole representative of the
species while other things were augmented by the
dozens - To make a list of such deficiencies - and as
far as possible to supply them - is part of the
occasion for the present revision though when I
come across a sheet marked

T. B
R. C -
D. C
1863

I realize
the necessity of writing out for the edification
of others "Piney Branch, Rock Creek, Dist of Columbia
1863" and there are more of these brief memoranda
than ought ever to have been left so long.
In using the New Manual as far as through the
Hypnaceae I can endorse Mr Watsons expectation
that with use it will be appreciated as 'good work'
though I still hold fast to the conviction that it would
have been a better book if the last 100 pages (Hepaticae and
Hepaticae had been given to the Flora - Dr H carried altogether

the [illegible] to the Lichens - Yours as ever

area as. ~~Hattie Hatha~~; writing (9) the red [illegible] ~~of~~ spaces -

~~the~~ the [illegible] of that idea ~~Hepaticae~~

cheaply - The single ream you sent me cost by express within a few cents of a dollar - I felt uneasy when I received the way-bill which read "One *bundle*" for I have no confidence in the careful handling of anything by R. R. employees - but it turned out that the bundle - though held securely by ropes was protected at the corners by a framework of wood. The paper is very satisfactory but rather light in weight - On the other hand the paper made by Morrison (Washington D.C.) 30 lbs to the ream is *too heavy* - The stock you received ~~It~~ is in fact very like the ream *you* sent me - from the same manufacturers. By-the-way which is the *top side* - if there is any difference - I read the water mark Linen Ledger - and infer that this should indicate the side of smoothest finish - but for an actual fact - turning these letters upside down seems to give the better side -

If Mrs Deane only knew what crying

necessity had driven me at last to house cleaning - the little boast I unconsciously got in her good opinion would all sink down again -

For a week - at such intervals as I could command - I have been ~~examining~~ revising my general herbarium - No one could have made me believe how very interesting the work would become to me in so short a time - [illegible] I was born to be a learner and not a teacher - I write what I do about Salices because the facts seem to call for publication and there is only myself to give them as the case now stands - - but after all I really enjoy the ways and works and friendly coopperation of the amateur - somewhat to my surprise - and yet after all it is nothing to be surprised at - I find it is oftenest the common plants that need reinforcing in my collection. In many instances these were gathered thirty years ago - perhaps only a single, inadequate, specimen

926 Grant Ave
Rockford Ills
April 27th/90

My dear friend Deane -

Had my botanical correspondence fallen off as suddenly two months ago as it has in the last two weeks I should have felt very bad over the withdrawal of so much that entered into the daily life and thought. But now I know that friends are all busy otherwise than sitting at a desk writing - as indeed I am myself - and I accept the change as something belonging to the "season" in the course of nature - as the Stoic is wont to philosophically put it - and don't worry - Only I hope that lots of interesting experiences are being stored up of which I shall be informed in due season. Macoun has already gone west for the summer. This season's work to be among the eastern Rocky Mts just north of our line - about Kootenai Lake - the Selkirks, Gold Range &c. - May he find more of Salix Barrattiana!

Work on the revision of my herbarium goes along bravely - with constantly increasing zest. I am now just through Rosaceae - If I find much to do - I find very very much more already done of which a realizing sense had almost departed from me - Some portions oh so rich - that of the specimens - lots of them - are thirty years old and faded - that only gives the collection the respectability of age - and the associations are so delightful - Then again such deplorable poverty as I strike now and then unexpectedly - My Roses - variously named R. blanda - lucida - and Carolina - are not worth the paper they are mounted upon - poor sticks of things - mostly without fruit and only by accident, as it were, showing the old wood with thorns and prickles - I must get all over again and then as you remarked of some of your fellows when I have better take out the poor stuff. It grew out of that long period when I did not buy herb paper because of the high price that so many plants of *my own* *collecting* are labeled in a brief way that I alone ~~could~~ can understand. I ought not to have done so *but I did* and now must make good the delinquency.

For a strong young woman to break down suddenly with nervous prostration during a summer vacation must have been hard indeed - and I rejoice with you over the recovery hoping it may be accelerated by each days gain. If the *eating* and *sleeping* only correspond with the *walking* ability I should feel quite encouraged - if I were you.

So, the big calender came from you! I must have overlooked the address (come to think - it was not I that mailed the roll -) and have always wondered how it came to be sent to me - and by whom -

I return Dr Morong's letter - with thanks for the pleasure of the reading - What interested me most was his own evident vigor of health and spirits - What a man! And here in our town is his classmate, Taylor - creeping about ~~on~~ ~~a~~ in the sun - in warm days. with a cane - well fed but rheumatic - what a figure he would cut stuck in the mud in the Pilcomayo River!

I have wondered at Dr Gray's recommending paper of 28 lbs to the ream when I knew ~~that~~ he had always used a lighter weight. There is one advantage in the heavy paper 30 lbs to the ream - it keeps its smooth surface under pressure - If I had my choice I should like to have three piles to draw from at discretion, 20, 25 & 30 lbs -

I may as well "fess" I am the only sinner of the household - all the rest have gone to church - I have the house all to myself and it is awfully still.

Cordially Bebb

926 Grand Ave
Rockford Ills
May 9th/98

Dear friend Deane :-

Rainy day. Spasm of virtuous resolution - Half-a-dozen formal and numerous letters disposed of, the answering of which has weighed heavily on my mind for a fortnight. and now I feel that I have earned the right to eat the best of my pie having taken the crust first -

The addition of 1334 sheets to your herb. from May to May is a good report. If you can keep this rate of accumulation up for ten years what a magnificent showing for the area included your collection ~~must~~ will make - By-the-by while I am very loath to advise you to extend the area I do honestly believe - for myself - that sooner than take in the additional tier of states which the Manual now includes I would have taken instead all the states east of the Mississippi - In other words the flora of Tenn. S. Car. Ga. Miss &c better fits into and supplements that of the Northern U.S. than does the flora of Kansas - All that is peculiar to the district of the newly added states really belongs more truly to the flora of the Plains -

O. A. Farwell came out from Chicago and spent a night with me - returning the next day to join Pringle *en route* for Mexico:- with whom he is going as assistant - He is a young fellow - about twenty three - and not prepossessing in appearance - (especially in that for so young a man he was so saturated with the odor of bad *Tobacco*) but I soon learned that he had explored the flora of his home neighborhood with open eyes and a quick appreciation of what was best worth seeing - *After* the first impression wore off I quite enjoyed him - But my Oh! won't he have to reform his practices in specimen making under Pringles tuition!

My collecting is becoming an accomplished fact! I already have gathered afresh. *Androsace occidentalis*, *Ranunculus rhomboideus* (our earliest spring flower on the prairie and rapidly approaching extinction) *Geum triflorum*. *Pulsatilla Nuttalliana*. *Draba Caroliniana* v. *micrantha* &c - I was quite interested in my Asters as I said over them recently and thought of proposing to you that I would send you ten specimens - really good - not snippy - of western species for as many eastern - There are several of the forms made prominent in the Synop. Fl from the eastern states which I would like to receive through your hands - if not directly collected by yourself - and I think - if I hold ~~foot~~ out that I can send you some good western - Partly because I am so determined to study them afresh & over again for my own satisfaction and can just as well as not double the number of specimens taken -

I am hoping to get up to Lauderdale the first of June - It is a better place for botanizing than the neighborhood of a city of 25,000 inhabitants

Cordially

MS Bebb

926 Grand ave
Rockford Ills
June 25th/90

Dear friend Deane!—

By dint of vigorous bumping I have at length made my old stylograph give down and now if some power would give the writer an equally efficacious shaking up the whole outfit might be brought into working order!— I will not attempt to make excuses for my long silence. I could do it but it would require twelve pages to give ~~do~~ the subject satisfactory treatment ~~justice~~ and even then the result would be more a matter ~~feeling~~ of relief to the writer than of entertainment to the reader— On one account however I do feel rather guilty— Our youngest daughter Mattie went east last week to

spend the summer with her cousins
(family of Mr H. W. Carpenter Providence, R. I.)
and when she went away there was
some chance that she might attend
Class Day at Harvard - having an
invitation to do so. - She said that
if she could possibly, ~~[illegible]~~ without
breaking in upon the plans of the
friends whom she was to accompany
she would certainly try to see Mr & Mrs
Deane. I promised - or it was
understood at all events - that I would
write to you - Afterwards when I came
to think the matter over it occurred
to me that Mattie would get to Providence
at noon of one day - go down to Warwick
Neck the next and it did not seem
likely that she would start off to Cambridge
the next. So as all was so uncertain
I deemed it best not to say anything
that might lead you to search for her
that day - in the crowd - when she
might not be there at all. She wished
very much to meet you - and if during

the summer you can anytime find it convenient to run over to Providence your friend Prof Bailey - who knows the Carpenter family - would doubtless accompany you to the summer residence down the Bay. Mattie, I can assure you would be delighted. and it would be a great pleasure to me to have her come home with an account of a visit from Mr Deane - But more of this by & by - when I hear from my girl - whether she went to Harvard after all or no.

I confess it was with the secret hope that you might find something among my early spring collections desirable as an addition to the "Model herbarium" (in which I am ambitious to figure creditably) that I wrote out that brief list - I certainly did not expect any such good luck as that it would include a special desideratum - You shall have Ranunculus rhomboideus in good plants - Geum triflorum - enough for your own needs and to divide among friends - and all the rest. R. rhomboideus by the way is not common in herbaria - with the exception of a single, poor specimen from Cratty - my own showing is altogether from collections made by myself. I do not know of a plant of which - furthermore - I ever in my days of industrious collecting made so many poor specimens. You see it is just about our earliest spring flower. I would be all impatience - and take it too soon. A month later it would be in better condition but by that time hands would be ~~are~~ full of other things and the earlier gatherings would be ~~must~~ trusted to suffice -

Fowler did not go to Mexico with Pringle after all. I have my own opinion why - but perhaps it would not be best to speak too freely about a matter of which I know so little. I can only say - as between us two -

that if I had got to occupy the same wagon and tent all through a hot Mexican summer with the individual in question – some insuperable difficulty would be sure to spring up!

1 o-clock P.M. –

I had gotten thus far when the letter carrier came to the door – bringing yours of the 22d inst – "Hurrah! – hurrah!! – hurrah!!! – Surely vacation has begun – but no! the next sentence tells all "A Belle has been in my home" quick as a flash I knew that Mattie had ~~gone~~ been to Cambridge and that her friends have helped her to carry out her wish to call upon the Deanes! I am very, very glad of it all – Mattie is a good, whole-souled girl without the least bit of affectation – Only a few days before she went away she was expressing her indignation and contempt provoked by a young lady of our acquaintance who had just returned from a short trip to Boston - where she had dropped and irrevocably lost all her r's, "I like to hear eastern people talk - but I detest the affectation of a western girl trying to maintain them - You see if I don't stick to my r's come what will" - So I fancy our girl came in upon you a thorough-going representative of the "woolly west". It is very kind of you to say that could she have stayed with you for several days you would have shown her all the notable things to be seen in and about Cambridge - - I know you would, and we all appreciate your generous impulse, as if it had been ~~the~~ an accomplished fact - The home here is very lonesome just now - Mattie gone for the summer and all the rest - Nina and the boys - up at Lauderdale

Lakes - the boys were impatient to be off and Mrs B and myself staid behind to shut up the house - to look a little longer after the garden &c - We will probably remain till after the 4th of July - Not that we wouldn't gladly exchange for the quiet of Lauderdale ~~for~~ the din of fire crackers - but just on account of the f. c's aforesaid we deem it best to stay and see that the house isn't burned down - It is all well enough for Anna and and I to go off by ourselves - up to the Lakes for instance - messing together over the kitchen table on cold rainy days - that's a pic-nic - but to sit down on opposite sides of a long dining table which we are accustomed to seeing surrounded by the faces of our children is an altogether different thing -

This is not much of a

botanical letter — neither was Jones for that matter! Of late I have been doing more in my garden than in the herbarium — but when I get up to Lauderdale I shall make up for lost time —

I am all impatience to hear from Mattie — Will have a letter this evening —

Kindest regards to Mrs Deane

As ever your friend

M S Bebb

var. maritima, Chapm.
Wislizeni, A. DC.
var. frutescens, Engelm.

SALICACEÆ.

POPULUS
angustifolia, James.
balsamifera, L.
var. candicans, Gray.
Fremonti, Watson.
var. (?) Wislizeni, Watson.
grandidentata, Michx.
heterophylla, L.
monilifera, Ait.
tremuloides, Michx.
trichocarpa, T. & G.
var. cupulata, Watson. [illegible]

SALIX
adenophylla, Hook.
alba, L.
var. cærulea, Koch.
var. Pameachiana, And.
var. vitellina, Koch.
amygdaloides, And.
arctica, Pall.
~~var. Brownei, And.~~
~~var. petræa, And.~~
argyrocarpa, And.
? Austinæ, Bebb.
Babylonica, L.
balsamifera, Barratt.
Barclayi, And.
var. latiuscula, And.
Barrattiana, Hook.
Breweri, Bebb. — Brownei, Bebb
var. petræa, An.
Californica, Bebb.
candida, Willd.
Chamissonis, And.
chlorophylla, And.
~~var. denudata, And.~~
var. pycnocarpa, And.
var. vestita, And.
cordata, Muhl.
var. angustata, And.
var. Mackenziana, Hook.
var. vestita, And.
var. Watsoni, Bebb.
desertorum, Rich.
var. (?) Wolfii, Bebb.
Drummondiana, Barratt.
discolor, Muhl.
var. eriocephala, And.
var. prinoides, And.
flavescens, Nutt.
var. Scouleriana, Bebb.
fragilis, L.
~~*var. decipiens, Hoffm.*~~
~~fulcrata, var. subglauca, And.~~ // [illegible]
glauca, L.
var. villosa, And.
glaucophylla, Bebb.
herbacea, L.
Hookeriana, Barratt. /l
humilima, And.
humilis, Muhl.
var. angustifolia, And.
var. grandifolia, And.
var. longifolia, And.
irrorata, And.
lævigata, Bebb.
var. angustifolia, Bebb.
var. congesta, Bebb.
lasiandra, Benth.
var. Fendleriana, Bebb.
var. lancifolia, Bebb.
lasiolepis, Benth.
var. Bigelovii, Bebb.
var. fallax, Bebb.
Lemmoni, Bebb.
var. macrostachya, Bebb.
var. melanolepis, Bebb.
var. sphærostachya, Bebb.
lingulata, And.
longifolia, Muhl.
var. argyrophylla, And.
var. exigua, Bebb.
var. pedicellata, And.
lucida, Muhl.
macrocarpa, Nutt.
var. argentea, Bebb.
~~Monica, Bebb.~~
monticola, Bebb.
myrtilloides, L.
var. pedicellaris, Carey.
nigra, Marsh.
var. longipes, And.
var. marginata, And.
var. Wardii, Bebb.
var. Wrightii, And.
~~Novæ-Angliæ, And.~~
~~var. myrtillifolia, And.~~
~~var. pseudo-cordata, And.~~
~~var. pseudo-myrsinites, An.~~
myrtillifolia And.

orbicularis, And.
ovalifolia, Traut.
petiolaris, Smith.
  var. gracilis, And.
  var. subsericea, And.
phlebophylla, And. phylicifolia
phylicoides, And.
prolixa, And.
purpurea, L.
  var. gracilis, And.
  var. Helix, Koch.
  var. Lambertiana, Koch.
reticulata, L.
  var. nivalis, And.
Richardsoniana, Hook.
rostrata, Rich.
rotundifolia, Traut.
sericea, Marsh.
sessilifolia, Nutt.
  var. Hindsiana, And.
  var. villosa, Nutt.
Sitchensis, Sanson.
  var. angustifolia, Bebb.
  var. congesta, And.
  var. (?) Coulteri, Bebb.
  var. denudata, And.
speciosa, Hook. & Arn.
subcordata, And.
taxifolia, HBK.
tenera, And.
tristis, Ait.
Uva-ursi, Pursh.
venusta, And.
vestita, Pursh.
viminalis, L.

HYBRIDS.

~~*fragilis × alba, Wimmer.*~~
  ~~*var. vestita, Wimmer.*~~
  ~~*var. glabra, Wimmer.*~~
~~*Caprea × viminalis, Wimmer.*~~
~~*cinerea × viminalis, Wimmer.*~~
~~alba × lucida, Bebb.~~
~~cordata × sericea, Bebb.~~
~~petiolaris × candida, Bebb.~~
~~sericea × candida, Bebb.~~
~~cordata × candida, Bebb.~~

EMPETRACEÆ.

CERATIOLA
ericoides, Michx.

COREMA
Conradii, Torr.

EMPETRUM
nigrum, L.

CERATOPHYLLACEÆ.

CERATOPHYLLUM
demersum, L.

GNETACEÆ.

EPHEDRA
antisyphilitica, C. A. Meyer.
Californica, Watson.
Nevadensis, Watson.
pedunculata, Engelm.
Torreyana, Watson.
trifurca, Torr.

CONIFERÆ.

ABIES
amabilis, Forbes.
balsamea, Marshall.
bracteata, Nutt.
concolor, Lindl.
Fraseri, Lindl.
grandis, Lindl.
magnifica, Murray.
nobilis, Lindl.
subalpina, Engelm.
  var. fallax, Engelm.

CHAMÆCYPARIS
Lawsoniana, Parlat.
Nutkaensis, Spach.
sphæroidea, Spach.

CUPRESSUS
Arizonica, Greene.
Goveniana, Gordon.
Guadalupensis, Watson.
Macnabiana, Murr.
macrocarpa, Hartw.

JUNIPERUS
Californica, Carr.
  var. Utahensis, Engelm.
communis, L.
  var. alpina, Gaud.
pachyphlœa, Torr.
occidentalis, Hook.
  var. conjugens, Engelm.
  var. monosperma, Engelm.
Sabina, L.

926 Grand Ave
Rockford Ills
June 30 1898

Dear Mr Deane

You are right in your guess at the name of the little snip of Salix *rostrata* - Mattie will be disappointed - I know - if she does not see you again, We had a letter from her the same day that we received yours - one letter coming by the morning mail the other toward evening - The two accounts "dove tail" together in a way that gives us "a realizing sense" of Mattie's visit - I've a mind to copy portions of her letter - snatches here and there that you may see for yourself how our girl reports her meeting her father's friend - "I am going to

Can you give me the P.O. address of G. N. Best author of the leading article in last Bulletin. He sends me a copy of his paper which I wish to acknowledge but I do not know where he lives - I think in N. J. somewhere.

confine myself to Mr Deane in this letter for there is so much to tell and I have not time for everything" "Mr Mason helped me to look up his residence and went with me to his house" "We sent up our names by the servants as we did not have cards_ Presently a gentleman came walking down the stairs very sedately and came toward me in the most unconcerned manner imaginable+_ "I shook all over" "I asked if that was Mr Deane. he did not appear to be moved - and possibly did not understand what I said" "then I said "I was Miss Bebb" _ "Why this is. Why this is so unexpected" "Where did you come from+ "I am so very glad to to see you" By this time he spoke to Robert. I told him where I was from and how I came there - We talked about different things. He said it was too bad that he was going north to botanize by himself and you (father) to be prolonging my journey -" By & by he went out to call his wife "Margie Margie come here — see who who we have here" and then we went through much the same thing again - Then he took up to see his study - a very cozy room - then he showed me his library which is quite as cute as the study - In fact the whole house gives me an impression of cozines though I could not tell very much about it as they were torn up getting ready for packing - Mr Deane himself looks much as his photograph only he is slighter than we all inferred from the picture - I know that father would enjoy him - Mrs Deane does not look like an invalid at all, and is a very nice lady indeed" [together with more that Mat would box my ears for copying] our time was limited

for we had to meet the train but
it was hard to get away "Do stay
longer - Don't hurry - stay to dinner
just stay, and have a little visit"
After we had gotten a block away
from the house I looked back and
he waved his handkerchief - It
was certainly a very cordial reception
they gave me and my fears soon
vanished - "He is coming to see me
here the latter part of this week
or the first of next"

When Mattie went away she expressed
a determination to see Mr Deane if possible
and I feel quite indebted to Mr Mason
for so kindly helping her to carry out
her purpose -

You will have seen by the
papers what a season of excessive
heat we have had here in S. Ills.
Hot, day & night - The temperature of rooms
which we tried to keep cool would get
above 85° - Out of doors in the shade it
was above 90° - and in the sun everywhere
from 110° up to 120° - Wife and I were
here alone - so we shut up the

house and wandered about day and night searching for cool places - in Mother Hubbard and Father Hubbard costumes - Out in the garden have things to grow - for this warm temperature - both day and night - forces wonderfully a vegetation the roots of which spread in a soil saturated with moisture - I never saw such luxuriant Canna's - Had it not been for the heavy and continued rains which immediately preceded the heat everything would be burned up - There is a better air today though the thermometer registers 90° in the shade (on the north side of the house away from all reflections) and the sun heat is terrific - I saw a negro driver on a coal cart Saturday, with an umbrella spread over his head! Thousands of bushels of Strawberries have gone to waste because pickers could not be had at any price to go into the fields and gather the fruit. I have seen very warm weather here, but it was the dry heat of an inter continental area and the very dryness of the atmosphere which let the sun beat down – at night admitted of an equally rapid radiation into space so that nights were as cool as the days were hot. But for the past week we have had something – I fancy – like the sultry heat of India.

Wife and I remain here until July 5th – possibly until the Monday following. I would say direct your letters hereafter to Elkhorn Wis only there is a single contingency, which arising, I might be kept here for a week or ten days longer. I will let you know when the matter is fully decided. Once more thanking both yourself and Mrs Dean for your very cordial reception ~~to~~ given my daughter – I remain as ever

Your friend S. W. B.

2nd week in July 1890.

Lauderdale Lakes
near
Elkhorn Wis.
Friday morning

Day of the month lost already

My dear Mr Deane:—

It is delightful to get letters from you and Mattie by the same mail. Each so supplements the other! If you were pleased with the cordiality of your reception at Warwick Neck I can assure you the family there were, in turn, delighted with their visitor:—and this not on the testimony alone of our enthusiastic daughter but Nina has a letter from "Cousin Lettie" which quite confirms all that we had otherwise heard. But I beg of you not to place too much confidence in those composite mental pictures

of yours made up from a
few photographs and Mattie's
"introduction" of the parties "individ-
ually". It was less than six
months ago that I ~~distinctly recollect~~
~~having~~ heard that young lady
sternly make the philosophical
remark that it would not be
wise for the Bibbs and Deanes
to meet for they would surely be
disappointed - and now it seems she
has been doing her best to render
such a catastrophe probable - Possibly
however the photographs - especially the
Lauderdale lot may have done. some
~~something~~ in the way of toning
the word painting. If ever another
amateur photographer comes about
my premises taking groups I'm
going for him with a shot gun!
Did she tell you that I was a
rather premature old man - with
the general appearance, the bearing
and bronchitis, of a broken down

most of all not herself ~~[illegible]~~ even
Her disinclination to write letters
roots back in the same feeling of
personal depreciation - But if you stay
long enough - as of course you will -
to really get acquainted - or if you
should happen to be taken just a
bit sick enough to cause any
concern - you will find out fast
enough the mother-love that
broods over the household.

I can trust the fidelity of Mattie's
introduction to the boys and their
sister - If I should say aught
myself I might do the very thing
I have suspected her of doing -
namely - laying on the high lights
too profusely.

We had a serenade last night
from some young people who are staying
for a week at the Elkhorn Club House.
The singing was not particularly fine
but what took me was the miscella-
neous character of their repertoire

Several numbers were given
precisely in the order here written
down -

4. Rally 'round the Flag Boys.
5. Nearer my God to thee.
6 We won't go home till morning
! ! ! !

I have not been over to "Uncle
Dave's" bog yet to see if Epilobium
molle is coming on but I doubt not
it is - Was six weeks later than this
~~this~~ I found it last year -

I have not seen the article of
Greene's to which you refer - Have not the
money to pay for Pittonia - even if I wanted
to subscribe for it - In my opinion
Greene is moving along that narrow
ridge which divides erratic genius
from insanity - The history of his
religious life - always a reliable index
in such cases - seems to betoken such
as the true state of the case - I would not
be surprised to learn any day that he
had become insane -

The bottom of the 6th page warns me
to stop - I send this to the old address - expecting
it to be forwarded -

Kindest regards to Mrs Dame
As ever your friend M.S.B.

and that to even a greater extent than I imagine my conservatism has influenced the home life of the family. By dint of what we laughingly term among ourselves "cooperative housekeeping" we manage to live comfortably - and even in some respects to cultivate the refinements and amenities of life - but it is done on a mighty slender financial basis. and I need not tell you where the head and heart is, which wisely and lovingly directs and renders possible the carrying out of the scheme - Here is another chance for momentary disappointment if ever you came to make us a good long visit - as I hope you may - both of course understood - some time. Mrs B. - like her husband - has seen too many years of care and anxiety not to have lost the suppleness and vivacity of even middle-life. She is rather *reticent* and embarrassed on meeting strangers - not self assertive minister. I know this *is so* from the persistency with which news boys drop at my side when we board the cars. such supposed to be tempting literature as "Moody's Sermons" "How to conduct a revival successfully" &c-&c. and train boys are said to be wonderfully expert in "sizing up" their customers. Besides you must not be misled by the social setting in which you met our girl. We are the "poor relations" on both sides of the house, and live in a very modest way. The social life of Southern Ohio thirty or forty years ago - especially that of the country gentleman - was to me almost an ideal one. and I was slow to realize that it had been all swept away by the war and the conditions which followed. I sometimes think I never have, and never will, fully *realize* this

Lauderdale Lakes
near
Elkhorn, Wis.
Aug 3d/90

Dear Mr Deane:—

If I were seized of a strong and virtuous determination to write letters I would select a subject worthy the vigor of my purpose. As the case stands I have only a weak, flickering desire which must be nursed against untoward influences to prevent miscarriage and so I inflict myself upon you! Maybe you don't take this for a first-class compliment but I assure you that is just what I intend it for— Don't we go to see our best of friends when we are down in the dumps and I don't see or make duty calls when we feel equal to the occasion.

Thanks for the photographs - How vividly they recall the scenery around Wachusett - and the happy summer twenty four years agone! - The pictures were shown to all the persons in our camp (the inmates of the three cottages live as intimately together almost as if they belonged to one family) and duly admired.

You perhaps heard something of the charitable project which took Miss Lettie Carpenter up to Bartlett N. H. for a fortnight. She was so delighted that she sent for Mattie to join her the second week - Our girl wrote enthusiastically about the scenery of the White Mountains - and I could read between the lines that she looked through a pair of western eyes - "the dewy ferns overhanging the foot paths" - "how little the presence of man has affected wild nature" - This last is sure to be the uppermost thought with any one born and bred in the fertile valleys of the west when for the first time they are turned loose in a piece of New England wild wood. - You see "Miss Mather was nearer" for a time than you imagined -

We would gladly exchange Lauderdale lakes for the cool hills of New England - but our present retreat is the best within our reach and we are more than content with the blessings we have - "I'll tell you what it is Bett" said a friend a few days ago "you don't half appreciate the advantages of this place - "You say that by & by when Chicago people come in and take possession you are going to sell out and go north into the pineries - but I have been there several summers and I can tell you you have got to carry in everything you want during your stay - Here you paddle up the channel and for miles you have nothing to remind you of the proximity of a farm house except I notice when we came back that Frank even goes for milk and you have your spring chickens and berries - and green corn and ice - and all that sort of thing - Its a mighty sight difference - especially with a family, from living on bacon and dry bread - Besides the only inhabitants of that Pine region are a lot of degraded Norwegians left behind from the old lumbering days and you would find no one to take charge of your cottage during the ten months of the year "when it is unoccupied." All of which upon due consideration was set down to the credit of Lauderdale -

If you have enough and to spare please give me specimens of Solidago Virgaurea v. alpina showing its variation in stature dependent upon altitude and exposure - I have a fine series of Virgaurea and the allied (now given specific rank I believe) S. humilis, and [illegible] would be glad to add thereto something from your hand. -

We are glad to learn that Mrs Deane is so much benefitted by her stay in the mountains. - Sometimes some of us get a little mixed up as to whether we are really better or only feel better. But walking two miles a day is a real tangible fact about which about which there can be no mistake

A week ago we went through a few days of irksome weather - hot and the wind blowing a steady gale - just blow - blow - blow from morning till night - If you got under shelter you felt smothered if you got out into the wind you felt that every film of perspiration over your whole body was being absorbed - or that you were running risks of taking cold. - Happily a glorious rain - soaking the parched earth. followed and we are now in the full enjoyment of the usual temperature of the region

Kindest regards to Mrs Deane

Cordially yours

M S Bebb

Aug - 1890.

Lauderdale Lakes
near
Elkhorn, Wis
Aug

Dear Mr Deane:—

Behold how Mistress Margie shall be brought to Confusion! I "write again" instanter.

Oh what botanizing. "Pretty innocent and enthusiastic sixteen" holding a sheltering umbrella over Botanicus while he digs up his Hypericum Canadense. Isn't it idylic! Just too sweet for anything!! You may send along your amateur photograph of Walter Deane in his "tramping rig" but it shall never—never take from me this lovely vision of just how he manages to sustain the enthusiasm of youth in the midst of his arduous labors

I return herewith Dr Morong's letter with many thanks for the pleasure I have had in reading it - To tell the truth the obligation I feel under to return promptly that someone else may have it in turn has something to do with this "quick" reply — only you need not tell your wife so.

I wonder if any Indian maiden ever holds an umbrella over Morong's head! He does lots of work out in the hot sun and I have never been able to see just how he could - He is a gay and lively old fellow and I would not risk him an inch - way off there in Paraguay but what ~~if~~ even he got "quite young again" on occasion.-

I am not going to attend the Indianapolis meeting of the A.A.A.S.- in fact I have let my membership of the association go by default through non-payment of dues, I enjoy the opportunity which the gatherings afford of meeting ~~personally~~ botanical friends and giving the additional charm of personal acquaintance to friendships grown up through correspondence - but after you have said this you have said all the rest is "vanity and vexation of spirit" and costs much money in hotel bills and travelling expenses - unless you happen to belong to the inside ring which manages the concern — ~~They are~~ I have attended not a few of the receptions tendered the association — both east and west, and of all the dismal affairs you can conjure up commend me to a company of "society people" trying to entertain a company of students. — And then how the "Members" do disport themselves — Here comes that old bag of wind Sterry Hunt — swelling himself up and trying to look as big as his own estimate of himself — before a bevy of *Mrs Leo Hunters* — for all the world like a turkey gobbler strutting in the barn yard — and after him some superannuated + weazen-faced *masher* like Cope, bowing and grimacing — first this side and then that — to a lady on each arm — profuse in the gallantry a little of which might better be bestowed on the abused wife at home! and so the procession moves. I always had a fatal inclination to get into a corner and look on instead of wisely going in for the enjoyment of the occasion

Mattie writes that the Carpenters wish her to remain with them until after they return to the City. It seems a long time to our girl, but she wisely remarks that she need not decide now and at any rate she can come home in two days when she really makes up her mind to come. We have missed her here at the lakes very much. Indeed

just now we are without
any daughter - Nina having
gone for a few days visit
with girl-friends in Elkhorn -
Only Mrs Babb and myself and
three boys for a family

I was thinking, one time -
that if I were down in Jaffrey
that I might keep pace with
Mrs Deane (if I could it with
her frisky husband) but
now that she is working up to
a 4 mile stretch I doubt it.
- An up grade beats me! I did
however pull an oar with
Nina a few mornings ago
making five miles in fifty
minutes - there being a rather
stout lady passenger in the
stern - Kindest regards from Mrs
Babb ~~Deane~~ and myself to Mrs Deane
and yourself

Cordially Babb

Lauderdale Lakes
near
Elkhorn Wis.
Aug 7 /90

Dear Mr Deane:—

I promised the children that I would ask you why "a hypocrites [I think it was so written] eye can better descry than you or I, the how many toes a pussy cat goes!"—and I forgot all about it!— This is to make good my neglect. The Conundrum beats us all—

Our neighbors on the south close their cottage next week— those on the north the week following. Then we will be left alone in our glory so far as the Rockford Camp is concerned— We

plan to return home Aug 28th—
All this makes us feel that our summer vacation is really drawing to a close.

I have lots to do when I get home— The house needs repainting and I have planned an extension of the lawn and border for shrubbery and hardy perennials— Now that we are absent during July & Aug the space at first allotted the small fruits and kitchen garden proves to be too large and I am only too happy to utilize it in the way suggested above. There is a package— a small one— of Guatemala Willows from Mr Smith awaiting my return— a good starter on Willow work for the winter

A pious old fool— deacon in the Methodist church— director of a bank in Elkhorn a man worth over $100,000— from whom I bought this lot was victimized day before yesterday out of $6.000 in gold by 3-card monte— The old trick that has been exposed in the newspapers over and over again— Who says that Lauderdale is not up in the pictures as a fashionable summer resort!

As ever yours MSB—

926 Grant Ave
Rockford Ills
Sept 8th /93

Dear Mr Deane -

I opened with trepidation your letter of Aug 18th - superscribed by your wife. but felt reassured upon finding no mention of any circumstance whatever to account for the disappearance of your usual familiar handwriting from the envelope. Left to myself I imagined that you had gone off in a hurry on some botanical excursion and had called back to Mrs Deane to please send off the letters left undirected. - Your reference in a later letter to being "taken quite sick - 4 days in bed." puts a different construction on the matter and makes me feel ashamed that I did not more promptly reply to your brief note - and inquire into the why's and wherefores of this family epistle. - The last week at the lakes and the first week of getting settled here at home into the furniture ruts is a season when correspondence is too apt to be neglected -

Now about _Epilobium molle_! I had intended to make a good job of sending you this plant in all sorts and sizes - forma minor - forma major - &c - &c. But Lo! when I visited the locality where it grew so abundantly last summer I could find only two plants - Fortunately one of these is _a very fine one_ - so I am able to save my reputation and redeem my promise - letting the _full representation_ go for next summer

The answer to the pussy cat conundrum caused a great laugh - Why is a room full of married people empty - Can it

they were not up at Lansdale -
I myself found some compensation in having Arthur and Walter at home for a few days to help put the garden - gravel walks &c in good order - but really we might have prolonged our stay one week - only that the children especially those in the High School felt that they ought to be present the day school began -

Mattie is coming home about the 12th of Octr. She writes that she has grown so stout and brown - that her personal appearance can scarcely be said to be an improvement - but I'll risk that.

One hates to be for ever making excuses but I hope you will accept this dull letter as evidence of a good intention of the heart which the head failed to sustain.

How happy you must be in the recovery by Mrs Dance of her wonted health & strength!

Cordially
M S C Pell

be because there is not a single person in it - or is there a more reasonable answer?
Now I must give you two or three which I heard at the Lakes this summer - perhaps already familiar -

1st Why is the Devil a perfect gentleman?

2 Why is Joseph Gillott the most nefarious of men:-

3 Why is a crow?

"Why do we come home from the Lakes so early as Aug 28th?" Well just for this absurd reason - By a City Ordinance (back of which the School Board can not go) the Public schools must be opened the 1st Monday in Sept - It happened this year that the County Fair was held the same week - upon which great occasion the schools are always dismissed - So we all came home - the children went to school for just one day - and then the rest of the week - in our family - growled because

926 Grant Ave
Rockford Ills
Sept 25th/90

Dear Mr Deane -

Yours of Sept 21st enclosing another letter from Dr Murray excites some qualms of conscience that I have not sooner acknowledged one of Sept 18th enclosing Murrays first from Buenos Aires - Strange that our friend's forebodings of revolt should have been written only the day before the actual outbreak occurred - There is something interesting to me - recalling as it does how the people of the North during our civil war were often led to misinterpret the events of the day - To read Mr Murrays statement that the "Government succeeded in squelching the rebellion" - a rebellion that ~~was so far practically successful that it~~ "succeeded in squelching" Clemens "in five or six days" - Of course in Buenos Aires the whole affair is given out as a triumph of the government - and Murray thoughtlessly falls in with the popular idea -

As to that "remarkable transformation" I have an obscure notion that the goat turns to butter - but fail to connect this with the girl and scarlet cloak -

As for the animal with most brains we all give it up -

Anent the Devil. Being Imp-o'-darkness he can not be imp o'lite - See!

Neglecting botany and stupid otherwise - this just to cover Murray's letters herewith returned -

Mattie starts for home a week from to-day -

Sincerely yours

M. L. S. Webb

926 Grant Ave
Rockford Ills
Oct 22^{d} 1890

My dear Mr Deane:—

I have just returned from two weeks visiting kith and kin in and about Chicago— I have, living there— two sons and their families— one daughter and her family (three grandsons)— a sister and two married nieces— in all seven households— I came home rather tired— not to say exhausted— by too much excitement and a sort of necessity I was under to make *scedule* time— no matter what the weather out-of-doors— Had I staid as long in each place as I was urged to remain there

whole winter would scarcely have
seen me through—

This simply to acknowledge the many little tokens of remembrance which I find on my table from you—to return Mr Moon's letter (how very interesting it is!) and to promise that by & by I will try to make amends for present shortcomings— I want to leave your article in the American Garden for a leisure opportunity— One does not care to have such enjoyments spoiled by haste—

Mattie is home and already quite settled into her accustomed place and occupations—

Kindest regards to Mrs Doane and pray excuse this scrawl—only a little bit better than unexplained silence would have been

Cordially Beth

926 Grant Ave
Rockford Ills
Nov 27/90

Dear Mr Deane:—

I must write a few lines if only, to thank you for the Asters. I looked them over with satisfaction when they were first received - but postponed anything like a careful study until such time - now near at hand. ~~when~~ as I can spread the specimens out before me, mounted in first-class style, I scarcely know what I shall have to send you in return but I have picked up several plants, as their season passed, which I thought at the time would please you - among the rest - Ranunculus rhomboideus and that single fine specimen of Epilobium molle which enables me by just the skin of my teeth to redeem a reckless promise - I shall never again expect to find an Epilobium in a swamp one season just because the place was full of it the season before!

I have been intent upon things non-botanical and now there is only four weeks intervening till the Christmas Holidays. but after that, sets in my annual season of leisure for herbarium work - - I am looking forward to its coming with unalloyed pleasure since I have no task work before me. nothing that must be done on schedule time

I do not venture a single comment on your interesting collection of Asters - but fancy I shall have something to say later on. This is just to thank you for them

Cordially Bebb

Nov 27. 1890.

Your postal just handed me!

I join in spirit the cordial greeting, and welcome home which our beloved Mason, is today receiving from his Boston friends

M L I S

926 Grand Ave
Rockford Ills
Dec 5th/90

My dear Mr Deane:—

I poisoned your Asters last evening and this morning - right after breakfast - I arranged them on sheets for mounting. What a beautiful collection and how satisfactory in showing the totality of character for each species are the sumptuous specimens! I do not recall having ever before received from one person, at a single sending, so many fine Asters— The enthusiasm which they awakened led me to make a revision of all the specimens in my herbarium - rearranging the species after the grouping of the Synoptical Flora, so I quite made an Aster day of it— Most of the northern species, revised by Gray or at any rate made conspicuous as additions to the Manual I lack -

1. Aster Lindleyanus, I suspect (ex descr) that I have a single specimen of this sub nomine A. Drummondii

2 Aster concinnus vera

3. A. polyphyllus - a specimen mixed with A. ericoides is probably of this species but I would like something authentic for comparison

4. A. longifolius et var - Can't you get this for me from your New Brunswick correspondent.

5. A. patulus

6 A. tardiflorus -

No! you can't prove anything by me about forms intermediate between A. vimineus and A. diffusus - but I am very glad indeed to add to the group in my herbarium - specimens like these of yours "compared carefully with others named by Gray himself" as affording an indication of about where in the series it is best on the whole to make the division.

Dr Gray I notice still repeats his old assertion that A Drummondii runs into A sagittifolius. So it may. and in herbarium specimens the relationship may seem closer than it really is. I am myself strongly of the opinion that A Drummondii here in N. Ills- represents A undulatus into which it passes as you go southward,

A year ago in a bog near Lauderdale Lake I collected an Aster which at the time I took to be an attenuated form of A paniculatus - which species I thought I observed on the edge of the bog in its normal development. But when I got home I found my Aster was A. junceus and now I am curious to know if mayhap I was mistaken about the A paniculatus also. It may have been A. longifolius. I will send you the form which I take to be A. junceus for verification.

I find in my pocket two letters and a newspaper clipping from Mr Morong which have only been retained through inadvertance –

A letter from your friend MLB would it seem quite natural if the Salices were ignored altogether – nor I may add if the MLB – aforesaid did it have something to bother you with – so here it goes –

Capt J. Donnell Smith sends me for determination a Willow from S. America – which according to the books ought to be named S. Humboldtiana var falcata And (= S. falcata, Kunth) The specimens are so exactly like S. nigra v. falcata = S. falcata *Pursh.* that had they been collected near Baltimore I should never have suspected the slightest difference – Now what I want to know is this when Kunth named them S. falcata did he intend to refer them to Purshes species – or did he without knowing ~~that~~ the name had already been given to a plant of N. America – use the name falcata for a supposed new species of his own. Do you get the idea? For the life of me I can not see wherein the plant of the Andes differs from that of the U.S.

and if Kunth thought the same
I might feel like giving S. nigra
to S. America — albeit it is mighty
convenient to draw the line in
Central America and call everything
south of that S. Humboldtiana,

We had delightful fall
weather — Both east and west of us
were storms and freezing cold before
winter set in here in earnest —
Up to the day before Thanksgiving we
worked in the garden — and on that
very day laid some sods — But now
the ground is covered with snow and
we have had the thermometer as
low as 5° Farenheit —

Mattie sends her kindest
regards to yourself & Mrs Deane — "I
wish you could see them Father — I
know you would like them"!
— She does not like her last photograph
— a dislike shared by all who know
her — She wishes me to say that

when she has another sitting - and gets a picture she is not ashamed of - she will send to you with pleasure -

Well - the winter is before us - my season - and presumably yours as well for herbarium work and study - Let me hear from you often as of old - You can get up any amount of enthusiasm when there is such a group of botanists to create a kind of reverberatory heat - and I get the benefit of the portion which becomes fixed in your letters -

Mattie says that you are coming west as soon as Mrs Deane is able to make the journey - I have always felt a sympathetic interest in your wife's improved health - but now I shall have a downright selfish motive and wishing that all the gain of one summer may be held over and piled atop the next -

Yours cordially,

M S Bebb

926 Grant ave
Rockford Ills
Dec 10th/92

My dear Mr Deane:—

I have been revising my Solidagos today. a light task as compared with a similar overhauling given the Asters a short time since. I barely save myself on S. uliginosa a bit genuina by a single specimen from New Brunswick light border. All the rest of my so called S. ~~angust~~ stricta Ait goes to S. neglecta T&G, most of it in forms intermediate between the type and var linoides. There is a plant from the Pocono Mts Pa - which has been often collected more especially by Profs Traill Greene and Porter, I have not a doubt that you will find it in the

Gray herbarium - and I wish you could sometime tell me *under what name*, whether as S. neglecta or S. uliginosa (= stricta of the old Manual)

Furthermore I collected at Fountaindale a similar form which I sent out sometimes as "S. stricta" - sometimes as S. neglecta - I scarcely knew which to call it - but now that *linoides* is made a variety of *neglecta* I can scarcely be in error in regarding my plant as of this species - intermediate between the type and variety - You may come across *this* too in the herb. - if so please tell me where Dr Gray placed it in his final revision -

Cordially

Bebb

926 Grant Ave
Rockford Ills
Dec 18th/90

My dear Mr Deane:—

Nothing could be more satisfactory than your report upon the final determinations made by Dr Gray upon some forms of Solidago neglecta &c collected by myself and others. It proves conclusively just what I have all along suspected. Porter and Greene were not in error when they sent those three specimens under one ticket and Dr Gray himself made a mistake when he called the two forms with strict inflorescence to one species and the third with "plainly secund" inflorescence to another. I have stood in the midst of acres of this plant and I know as a field botanist that the two forms are not even varieties of the same species. It is rarely the case that a collector — unless his attention

is specially given to the matter will
collect a species so fully as to give the
closet botanist the same impression which
he himself gets from the plant as
found growing – If the strict forms
of S. neglecta are to be carried to
S. uliginosa Auctt – then S. neglecta in
toto must go with them. But after
all Fowlers New Brunswick plant in
my herb. – good uliginosa – seems to be
of a different species – S. neglecta
in all forms grows in a bog up at
Lauderdale and if I am there next
season (as I hope to be late enough for
collecting Asters) I will get a series
of forms for you, – the strict forms,
and the second, flower together, both
very late – The specimen from Ringwood
Ills was collected by Dr Vasey! To sum
up then my present impressions –
S. uliginosa of the coast, Maine and
northward, is a well defined species –
flowering early &c – with this Dr Gray
has confounded forms of S. neglecta

with strict inflorescence - flowering at the very close of the season along with Gentiana detonsa &c and it is probably upon the evidence seemingly afforded by ~~[illegible]~~ ~~of~~ these forms that the range of S. uliginosa is extended to Pa - and Minn. It seems - I realize that - audacious in me to thus criticise Dr Grays determinations in Compositae - but I have known this plant all my botanical days in a way he never did - and this is not the first time in many years that I have been bothered by the book accounts of it - only now that I know that Dr Gray separated the specimens from the Pocono Mtn - I can see just why he did so - on account of the inflorescence - and know that he made a mistake. But what an additional value your notes will give to all my specimens! For instance Porters specimens from Pocono Mtn - even those with secund inflorescence are labeled "S. stricta" these go to the neglecta series My own specimens to match the form which you say Dr Gray had placed in a genus cover marked "neglecta verging towards Muhlenbergii" (= arguta) are easily identified - but I never thought of a transition toward arguta - a species which did not grow at Fountaindale.

I sent Dr Gray the series of specimens which led to uniting S. gigantea and S. serotina. - I also sent him a series which first convinced him that juncea and Missouriensis were confluent - and I verily believe that had I known of what I believe to be an error concerning S. neglecta I might have had it corrected - I suspect the range of S. uliginosa has been unduly extended by confounding with that species forms of S. neglecta with strict inflorescence!

At the same time I wrote to you I sent a note to Porter telling him that I had transferred all of his "S. stricta" to S. neglecta - and asking him what he thought about it - Has as yet sent no reply - Wish you Merry Christmas -
Cordially

P.S. A few days ago I came unexpectedly upon a nice, clean copy of Patterson's Catalogue of the Plants of Illinois - which I send you by mail with my best compliments. I feel pretty sure that you haven't it - for it has been out of print almost from the day it was issued - and that was before you had any Illinois correspondents I imagine - botanical ones that is. There probably never was published a State Catalogue, so carefully edited and well printed of which there was such a limited number of copies struck off - just enough - at 50 cts apiece to recover the cost of paper &c. the typesetting and press work ~~was~~ being a labor of love. I believe there were less than one hundred copies - over and above those subscribed for beforehand. Five or six years ago Prof Beal wrote to Patterson but was told in reply that the author had no copies left.— As I took *five* he (Patterson) refused Prof. B. to me but I thought at the time that I had none to spare— so please don't mention *this one* to *that person* — for I would thereby be placed in a rather embarrassing position.— I have always regretted that Patterson did not adhere to his intention of publishing supplements annually— but I suppose *now* that the small number of copies first issued makes it inexpedient to tag on addenda, there would be ten botanists wanting the addenda to one who could possibly possess the original Catalogue

You must enjoy— after all— the work of arranging Dr Grays autograph letters— but there is one matter in which I should feel even a greater interest— viz. in knowing that Mrs Gray was editing his correspondence— so as to give us a Life in the modern style— We got a little foretaste in the Life of Darwin— but think of what the correspondence between two such loveable men as Gray and Hooker must have been!

B.

926 Grand ave
Rockford Ills
Dec 22d/90

My dear Mr Deane:—

At the same time I wrote requesting you to tell me what final disposition Dr Gray had made of certain Solidagoes. I wrote to my old friend Prof Porter telling him what I proposed to do with his "S. stricta" so called from Pocono Mt and asking what he thought about it. The inclosed letter rec'd in reply may be of interest to you. I am not convinced. I have stood in the midst of acres of S. neglecta and observed all around me every conceivable gradation of panicle from strict and wand like to spreading and secund. The thought of two species never entered my mind. Next autumn D.V. I will give this matter some attention a-field. The implication seems to me to be this if the strict form of S. neglecta (as I regard it) must be carried to uliginosa then the whole species (neglecta in toto) would go along with it. The alternative is that the A. rubiginosa of east may still be different (as I think it is) and separable on characters not heretofore emphasized. I observe that Hill in the last Garden & Forest just at hand - speaks of rubiginosa and neglecta - as blossoming together along with the fringed gentians. I can imagine just what he had in mind.

Your all too short paper on the Flora of the Summit of Mt Monadnock strikes one as ~~altogether~~ the best thing of the kind you have written lately. It is simple, unpretentious - in good taste and your pen loses ~~not all~~ none of the grace and ease which ~~we~~ ~~value~~ we like so much in your ~~letters~~ private correspondence. I have thought sometimes that when you wrote for the public eye ~~that~~ all the enthusiasm of one Walter Deane was utterly squelched. Perhaps - if you will pardon a little bit of good natured criticism I would just venture to suggest that simply because a certain locality ~~was~~ is only "four hours" from Boston", it does not necessarily follow that therefore it ~~seems~~ is "within easy access the lovers of botany" in general. This is a bit of that sort of unconscious assumption which we of the wild and woolly west are prone to detect in the citizens of Boston and New York—

Nina & Mattie are busy packing christmas boxes for absent members of the family and friends— I have been lending my aid and writing at *odd* spells which may account for ~~the~~ scratched and corrected pages and general incoherency— I only intended to enclose Porters letter and here I am at the bottom of a third page—

With the best wishes of the

season to both yourself and Mrs Deane - and with especial emphasis on Mattie's portion - the whole family unite -

Voice from up stairs - "Father are you busy?" No - "Well: will you please nail the lid on that box so that Arthur can take it down." Yes - and that means that after the lid is nailed down my letter must be ready to go down also -

Hastily

Belle

926 Grand Ave
Rockford Ills
Dect 27/90

My dear Mr Deane:—

The house was full on Christmas day but since then guests have taken their departure and our immediate home circle has thinned out until only Anna, Mattie & Frank are left with Mrs B. and myself: giving a quiet opportunity for those of us who remain to tide over this most trying period - a week of reaction following excessive Christmas hilarity -

I doubt if you can realize the enthusiastic reception which was given your photographs. Mattie went off into extacies over the one of yourself declaring it to be a most capital likeness - I fancy she quite prides herself upon knowing the Deacons personally an advantage over the rest of us not to be gainsaid. The Rhododendron under a large lens is wonderfully beautiful - the leathery, texture and gloss of the leaves and even the waxy consistence of the flowers are brought out admirably. It is only by outlines that I should ever recognize this as the original of the cut which appeared in the *Garden*, At present ~~they~~ the two occupy a place on the mantel shelf - but by & by I shall get them into my room. And by the way you would laugh to see my study in its present condition - I must premise that when the house was planned Mrs B. and myself were agreed that it would be a cozy, nice arrangement all round to have my room open out of the family sitting-room. The practical outcome of this has been that upon occasions of emergency the study is made a mighty convenient place to toss rubbish and shut the door upon it.— Just now the floor is literally covered with litter.— manilla wrapping paper— thrown hastily out and thrown down in a tangle (Oh how sadly good Miss Edgeworths lesson in "Waste not want not" is forgotten now-a-days—). boxes of all sorts and sizes— wads of tissue paper— and in the midst of all the frame-work of a puppet show! In all candor I must add that when I do take possession of my domain and turn it to legitimate use my exclusive right therein is respected to an extent almost laughable— and furthermore that in the present instance of converting it into a convenient catch-all I myself have been chief offender.

If it were not that I have so many old scores to clear off— and can not altogether depend upon myself

to carry out good intentions I should
write to Dr Sandberg and propose a
little exchange — When I know of
any one who really appreciates a
good specimen I am always glad
to share what I have — even regardless
of the quid pro quo, — During the years
that my herbarium of Essex. Mass. plants
was in process of formation Oh what
a number of first class collectors
there were. Then came a hiatus —
The men that followed were bound I
suppose that their work should not
be recognized as that of "the a mere collector"
A few attempts at exchange with these
makers of "baled hay" satisfied me and
I quit. — I hope that our Walter Deane
is the forerunner of another group
of good field botanists — and I should
like to come down like a Rip Van
Winkle amongst them — For to be
honest — what little so called "original
work" I have ever done in botany has
been the result of extraneous
pushing — what I really enjoy is
collecting, and my herbarium.

2nd letter

926 Grant ave
Rockford Ills
~~Dec~~ Jan 3' 1891

My dear Mr Deane:-

I must have my report on Mr Smith's Guatamalan Willows in his hands by the 13th. I do not know that it is a matter of much consequence any way whether Kunth intended to identify the Andean plant with S. falcata, Pursh, or not; still I would like to ~~[illegible]~~ be informed on this point before writing to Mr S. If you can make it convenient to consult the library at the Gray Herb on this matter and write to me so that I may have your letter not later than say Saturday Jan 10th I would be much obliged - The reference is to H. B. & K. Nova Gen. et Spec. 2. p. 23 A few hours with a cup of hot water and the lens - mainly I imagine to fortify a decision already reached but held subject to correction - is all that remains for me to do, in the way of study.

I have been dusting some duplicate bundles and a thin little packagelet for W. D. is growing up - Incidentally, I had occasion to examine more closely than I have done hitherto the Carices of the Man. new ed. - I was really surprised to find how few desiderata I had to record, only one species (C. ptychocarpa) - a few of the new varieties - and two hybrids. Twenty years ago - or such a matter - I enjoyed a liberal exchange it is there for all future carex students to puzzle over, and each have his individual opinion concerning its character -

I believe that I have obeyed your injunction and "kept on till I have nothing more to say"

Cordially

Bebb

P.S. I open my letter to ask of you an additional favor - In D.C. Prod 16^2. 199 Alph DC adds in a footnote under S. Humboldtiana "Nomen Chilensis Molinae vetustius ideo admittendum" - It is scarcely the case that DC, as editor, goes out of his way to criticise the work of a contributor unless there is good reason for so doing. Will you therefore consult the reference given to Molina (hist. nat. Chili p 140) and copy for me the description &c of S. Chilensis also date of publication of this and of S. Humboldtiana Kunth respectively with a number of the most active and sharp-sighted Carex-collectors ~~that~~ we have ever had. (Short. Sartwell, Mead. Hall. Canby. Porter Vasey. Hale. Parker. are names that occur to me as I write) and although the methodical arrangement may change, the material remains, to exemplify whatever treatment it may receive at the hands of different authors. That is just how it is with say from little tantalizing C. Bebbii. Once recognized it is too good to throw away - yet scarcely good enough to keep - and so it will be cuffed about as C. mirabilis Dew has been. Bailey was quite sure it wasn't anything at first but now he has given it bold faced type. - and who knows but someday it may be numbered. At any rate

926 Grant Ave
Rockford Ills
Jan 4/91

My dear Mr Deane:—

I wonder *if* this will follow my letter of yesterday close enough to reach your hands before you go up to the Gray library to look up S. *falcata* Kunth. *If it does* will you please give me *also* a transcription of *S. oxyphylla* Kunth HBK Nov Gen &c 2 p 24. If *it does not* do not make a second trip—. the matter is not of sufficient importance; You see I have not yet really tackled the Guatemalan Willows in earnest yet can not help nibbling around the edges. I will be dozing over the fire—just getting ready apparently to say good night to the family, when all at once a fresh idea will strike me and I start off to look that up instead. The fact is of late years I have learned to be cautious - to make some determination in a tentative way and then come up to it from another side and see if it will bear criticism. -

Arthur went up to Lauderdale Lake the day after Christmas to spend a week at a farm house - situated not far inland from our cottage. He returned yesterday - reporting a splendid time skating - fishing for pickerel through the ice - &c - and he came home loaded down with good things our country friends had given him - or sent to the rest of us. 3 pure bred Black Hamburg hens for his poultry yard - 3 plump young fowls dressed - a sack of pure buckwheat!!! - about a peck of popcorn - 2 doz fresh eggs &c —

Please do not be at any extra trouble on account of S. oxyphylla if this reaches you too late -

As ever
Cordially your friend
M S Bebb

926 Grand Ave
Rockford Ills
Jan 12th/51

My dear Mr Deane:-

What a generous, patient soul to greet my third letter with a "Ha-ha"! Well I am through with P. Humboldtiana falcata - oxyphylla &c so you are sure of a rest. Thanks for all your kindness which I fully appreciate - What a bother I make over a little matter anyway. Nine tenths to learn something myself and only the remaining fraction to teach others. Now I must give a day or two to non-botanical affairs and then the next thing is to write labels and send off a small contribution to the "Herbarium of Walter Deane" - specimens mostly old and faded but I trust not commonplace. They were firstraters, some of them, once upon a time - and I have come to care less for bright colors than I once did seeing all will fade more or less after years of keeping - Nevertheless a good specimen, such as Prof that was wont to make is always good.

In the early part of this winter I was putting in some extra genus covers &c and revising more or less - with the usual result of discarding useless material. This is something that don't bother you now and perhaps you think it never will - but just wait till the Herb of N. D. is thirty years old and see! When I was a boy we used to give each other a problem like this. If a frog in a well climbs up ~~two~~ one foot every night and falls back two feet every day how long will it take him to get out. - That is the "polite principal" on which my herbarium is growing at the present time.

When next a botanical friend dines with you - please present my most cordial regards - and say that I wish I could be there also - Been so long since I've seen a botanist most forgotten how they look Come to think Farwell was the last - and he wasn't a beauty - Yours ever - Bebb

926 Grant Ave
Rockford Ills
Jan 19th/91

My dear Mr Deane:-

In returning, to Mr Rand his 1890 Coll of Mt Desert Salices (a bulky bundle) I have taken the liberty, to include a small package directed to yourself. which he will forward- In it I hope you may find a few things which will pass muster for a place in that "finest show on earth" of freak Mass. plants. Some of your desiderata among the Salices which I might have supplied in poor specimens I passed by hoping, to send you better of my own collecting, next year - I am very well satisfied to think that I can send two species new to your herbarium - that is if your Minneapolis friend has not anticipated me - viz Epilobium molle and Ranunculus rhomboideus -

Some of the Willows are from beyond your limits - but I believe you once made an exception of Salix and Carex in this regard - The specimens are choice ones - You would be surprised to see the amount of rubbishy specimens of Salix that I receive - Every once-in-a-while some generous soul (?) writes me that he has sent me his "entire stock of duplicates" and just when I am counting up how I am ever to discharge such obligations - the stuff comes - and proves to be all the old culls and odds and ends of long accumulation which the possessor could do nothing with. Perhaps in the long run I have learned something about American Willows overhauling such miscellaneous material and occasionally I have come across something of more value than the donor intended to send, so I am not altogether discouraged; -Salix nigra" in all its forms" is on our list- Do you know that common as this Willow is- it is very shabbily represented in herbaria - my own no exception - nor Gray herb. either!- I realized this when I wanted good & ample material for comparison with J. D. Smith's Guatemalan S. Humboldtiana var. oxyphylla- It is all flowers & fruit and no good *mature* leaves- Next season I intend to *go for nigra*- in good flower & fruit- but above all in good big, generous leaf specimens. These will cover a sheet and show for what they are- I am not sure but I will curtail the size of the earlier taken fl & fr specims- in anticipation of space required for leaves.

I am curious to know what your opinion will be concerning ~~the~~ my Aster junceus? so called. It is certainly very like the old A. aestivus of my herbarium in cases where I believe my correspondent got their name from Dr Gray.— It is ~~certainly~~ either this or the slender form with linear leaves of A. paniculatus — mentioned by Dr Gray in the Synopsis F.—

I write in haste and under pressure— with a feeling all the time that I am leaving unsaid the thing which I ought to say.

Yours as ever

M S Bebb

926 Grand Ave
Rockford Ills,
Jan 28th/91

My dear Mr Deane:—

I am glad you are pleased with the plants I sent you. Are having you a list of desiderata that you could let me look over under promise to return immediately. I doubt if it would pay to make out a list for my exclusive use but if you have anything that I could run my eye over and perchance see here and there something of which you might want more or better specimens it would give me an opportunity to testify, in other than mere words, my appreciation of your many helpful services.

Porter and Canby were among my very earliest correspondents. But I had not heard from either of late years. We each got perhaps all that the other had to impart - and so our correspondence and exchange of specimens had ceased altogether. In both cases I felt easy in my mind - for I had sent the last parcel. I read your letter one day and the next recd one from Porter beginning, "I have long carried a burden of conscious indebtedness that I never made an adequate return for the" &c &c - and then following "I have put together a small parcel for you which I send by mail to-day" - I was rather glad - over and above any pleasure that the specimens gave me for I did not like to think that my old friends counted me "a back number"

Britton reports on the Lechea as follows - "The Lechea is L. stricta Leggett. mss., a clear species for which there may be an old ~~to~~ Rafin-esquian name but so far I have been unable to place it in his "Monograph""

The electric car lines have been extended in several directions, one or two miles beyond the city limits (mainly to boom suburban lots) and will afford me facilities in reaching some very desirable botanizing grounds - which last summer were beyond my walking ability. - One is the hills above the City on the bank of Rock River which last summer I could only visit twice - Now I can go to within a mile by the cars - The other is one upon which I am Counting greatly - viz the right of way of the Chicago & Northwestern R. W. which was fenced in thirty years

ago and has of course never
been cultivated or pastured since
. All I have to dread is that Blue-
grass will have spread in from the
farms along side and smothered out
most of the indigenous vegetation -

Yours cordially

M S Bebb

926 Grand Ave
Rockford Ills
Feb 2d/91

My dear Mr Deane!—

This winter I am cultivating as a specialty habits of promptitude and dispatch. If I ever do get caught up I wonder what I will do next! Your letter and list of duplicates was handed me by the carrier just before dinner—letter read—list revised and hopeful Cases" made note on"—folded—placed in return envelope—presto!

With parcels in hand from Canby Porter—"Washington"—I do not wonder ~~that~~ you find your ~~[illegible]~~ morning box filling up faster than you can get time to empty it—. Oh by the way if an old dog really and truly can't learn new tricks then I'm not an old dog! There!!. I've learned from Walter Deane to do my mounting in the evening and ~~[illegible]~~ sitting down to it. Found it mighty easy too. It is just barely possible that a reversal of the process — viz — if I had been used to sitting down and taking it easy to learn to stand up and work like a sailor — might not at the present day and date have been quite so acceptable. I got some plants from Porter one P.M. poisoned them that evening, arranged on sheet next morning — mounted next evening — distributed next morning! Presto. next! — Well next was some British Columbian Salices Coll. Macoun — that required study — and alack the study ended in my having to knock a species of my own making in the head. dreadful sorry. But science is science —

The only wonder to me is that when Walter Deane took — that leak at the bottom of the page he didn't fly like a streak leaving only his legs to mark the place of disappearance at the top. When you have time tell me about the Washington exchange — If you think that your Minneapolis friend would

like a few willows from me if you will give me his address I would write to him —

Cordially
Bebb

926 Grand Ave
Rockford Ills
Feb 14th/91

My dear Mr ~~Babb~~ Deane

Your Desiderata List did indeed have a narrow escape! I recall now my having thought at the time that it would be well to pass a tape around the envelope. Well! experience has not been high in her charges for tuition this time and I shall know better hereafter. I imagine that Synthyris Houghtoniana is left on the list as one of the things of which you want "more or better" – It is an easy thing to collect in bad shape and spoil in drying – I am sure I can get this for you as it grows on the bank of Lauderdale Lake – by the pathway leading down to our landing!

I wrote those notes for talk. Had the thought entered my head of your folding and pocketing most of them I should have been scared off and never written at all - "in ink" or pencil.

Our superb weather continues. I notice a group of little girls on the sidewalk skipping rope and just beyond some boys playing peg top - Evidently they are persuaded that the season has come round for such sports - No snow - (we have had no sleighing this winter -) clear frosty nights mild, sunny days - little wind - no fog, no rain.

We had the most fun out of Bovinine at the start - though your picture has been duly tested - You must know that our boys were born on a Western cattle farm - and when an advertisement appeared representing the milking of a steer, and on the wrong side at that - it just doubled them all up! – The Bosnian people evidently were not left long in ignorance of the absurdity of their picture and it was replaced by one not open to criticism

Although I have done more work in a botanical way this winter than I have been able to accomplish in several seasons past – it has been after all a "stern chase" clean through, I will not any more than barely catch up by the time I shall want to go out into the garden and fields – One consolation – if the angels in the highest heavens of the Swedenborgian faith delight in uses – then I have been "serving the Lord" – for I have given a good many days – to the pleasure of helping others – almost as many as I have expected of you!–

I will not write to ~~Dr.~~ Sandberg until I am sure that I shall have the time *and* *spunk* to do something more than write

What do you think of the January *Gazette*, John Donnell Smith's paper is beyond *question* a solid contribution to botanical science – but is it just the proper thing to devote *so* many pages of a periodical sustained by popular subscription to subject matter that however valuable it may be (and in the Proceedings of ~~some~~ Academy or other nobody would question its value) is to so small a number neither interesting ~~not~~ nor instructive?– As for *Hyphomycetes* I did not even cut the pages. It is all right no doubt only I don't dote on Hyphomycetes as some *folks* do! and is it "*News*" to tell us that "Dr Thomas Morong has returned from his S.A. trip" &c – The fact is – for the last three or four months I have found little in the *Gazette* to repay the outlay of $2.50

Cordially Bebb

526 Grant Ave
Rockford Ills
Feb 20th/91

My dear Mr Deane:—

You have so often sent me interesting letters from our good friend Morong I take pleasure in reciprocating. After your trips up to the Harvard Library in my behalf you will appreciate what is said about Molinas *Saggio Chileno* — and then the closing paragraph evinces such a charming personality—

As we count you—all 'round a family friend I must communicate some family news. Nina is to be married the coming spring or early summer to Mr Mason whom you may recall as the young gentleman who accompanied Mattie on her visit to your home last summer. We have every reason to feel satisfied that the young man is a clean, moral upright manly fellow who will make our daughter a good husband. He was graduated at Brown in the class of '87 and has since worked his way into a position with Mason, Chapin & Co which enables him to feel abundantly able to maintain a home of his own—

I am just sending a squib to Barnes for the Gazette about mounting plants and advising him to call on you for next

Cordially as ever

Bob—

926 Grant Ave
Rockford Ills
Feb 27th /91

My dear Mr Deane:—

So our minds ran along the same lines in the determination of Aster *junceus*. first taking the plants *on sight* for a slender form of A *paniculatus* — and finally — after comparison with herb. specimens of authentic *junceus* — setting aside the earlier impression — Your remark about my specimens branching rather more than those in herb. Gray I think I can account for. I imagine that I selected *unconsciously* such specimens because they *looked prettier*, had more flower heads to the square inch — I can get the other sort — and I am also very curious to know what the Aster was, growing near by, which I passed with a mere nod of recognition for our old friend *paniculatus*.

But I can not *accept* your reversal of my determination of this

Viburnum - at least not unconditionally. I have seen lots of V. pubescens in N. Illinois and I once collected V. dentatum in S. Ills. Now unless my V. dentatum was an extreme form - and unless the line between pubescens and dentatum is drawn nearer the former than I have all along supposed then the Wisconsin plant is not dentatum - though admitted to be intermediate in character - Why! my V. dentatum has leaves twice or thrice as large - as broad as long - petioles 3/4 in long - secondary veins diverging regularly and leading out to a very sharply dentate margin - and so on - I will get fruit - if possible next season - though I imagine that the character of the seed varies from season - with no tangible distinctions

You shall certainly have Synthyris Houghtoniana - but I forewarn you you will not feel like jumping over the moon when you come to see the specimens! It is a mean plant to dry - but I am glad to have something ahead as a clean addition to your

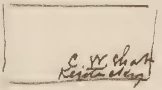
herbarium – likewise all the plants will not
yet scared off this time.

I have sent a little rejoinder to Prof Beal's Open Letter in the *Gazette* – proposing a discussion of methods of nomenclature, &c and ~~[illegible]~~ privately to Barnes ~~[illegible]~~ one W. D would be a good one to call upon *next*. The March No. is already made up – so my squib is to come out in April – I have my old blunderbuss loaded up to the muzzle with a charge to be fired off at "finding numbers" but as I myself have proposed opening the door – it will not do to follow this up *too closely* – will look too much as if I just was aching for a chance to strike in my own old gun and blaze away.

Have also written out Willow Notes VI. No laid up to cool – preparatory to final revision – Nothing of general interest anyway I only wanted to go over my old work on the California Willows and correct some mistakes before someone else did it for me!

So a lot of my thirty-year-old labels are still floating about to

many ms. names [illegible] on the [illegible] which might be the [illegible] of the same coming soon – Cordially Bebb vex the botanist of today – I should have worried – if I then gave. about the matter at all – then they were all pasted down or dumped into the trash basket years and years ago. It seemed at one time as if I were living all over the state of Ills – North, South and middle – I was a young fellow ready to copy new kinks – and the things to copy were not so numerous then as they are now. Prof C. W. Short. simply stamped his labels



"C. W. Short, Kentucky 18–" and I "followed my leader". Then my stay at Washington – though in the end it proved to be one of several years was always just going to come to an end and I never acknowledged myself a resident – nor did I have any tickets printed for my Dist of Col. collections – as I ought to have done – and certainly would do – in my present state of mind on the subject – So the Chrysogonum Virginianum was collected in the "Dist of Col" by me "M. S. Bebb" of "Illinois". The ticket ought to have been filled out like the enclosed –

I enjoyed the Ames Iowa Catalogue – Flora so nearly like our own here in N. Ills – Also Meehans sketch of Rafinesque – I have always thought of him as a man of genius – [illegible]

[illegible] ~~importantly~~ [illegible] the recent acquisition of mine here now [illegible] and the [illegible] – [illegible] The situation is so

fully appreciated in this family [illegible]

926 Grand ave
Rockford Ills
March 14th/91

My dear Mr Deane:-

I will begin with your postal and the Carex. It is said that to keep abreast of the times one must either get there himself or touch elbows with others who do. If I keep on corresponding with you and getting a bundle of plants occasionally from Mr Faxon - as it has just been my happy fortune to do - I shall be posted by & by whether I will or no, on all the latest determinations. Now I really hadn't noticed that Carex gravida was my old cephaloidea - and when I came to look things up in my herbarium, what do you suppose I found? A specimen of Carex Cephaloidea labeled "Dewey in Boott" - "Rocky Mountains" - Dewey's own ticket! So either Dewey himself didn't know what he had named "in Boott" or

Bailey is off - I ~~forgot~~ omitted to say
that the specimen so named is
pronounced gravida, both in character and geographical position. If I were
living at Fountaindale I could promise
you this, "root" and all, with every
assurance - for it did not die out of
the meadows as some of the other
they seedlings did - But here in town
I can not feel so sure - However I will
bear your request in mind -

I daresay you will find that the
dividing line between Viburnum dentatum
and pubescens is drawn much nearer
the latter than I have supposed - If you
look the matter up in the fall but.
I shall be interested to have your final
judgment. You may find these my
Salem Ills dentatum and if you do
will know how to make allowance
for my opinion.

Well - I rather guess - to give the
mean thing its due - that Synthyris is
not quite so bad as Seymeria. The seed
pods do not so seriously interfere with
pressing the leaves - but the ~~the~~ final
color is pretty much the same -

I send to Barnes and withdrew

a very foolish "open letter" and have substituted something a little better - I hope. At any rate the second attempt is in better taste - not hypercritical - and does not even pretend to smartness - all of which I very much fear I could not say of No 1. I have written to Barnes that if he will get something out of you for the May No I will follow in June with a protest against the use of "finding numbers" which I really believe will be worth while if I can only give my thoughts adequate statement.

I shall have to write to Dr Sandberg now sure enough and send him a little packagelet. but will defer a more pretentious sending till the close of next season -

Your criticism of some old labels reminds me of what Jas. M. Macoun once ~~wrote~~ me about the localities given in the Flora Boreali-Americana. I wish I could

recall some of the most amusing -
but they ran something like this
"Between York factory and Assiniboine"
or Between Lake Winnipeg and Great Bear
Lake. - At any rate covering reaches
of thousands of miles -

I have just been working
up a hybrid among the Rocky Mtn
Alpine Willows - and it proves very
interesting - Have just been making also
a drawing of it twice the natural size (to
admit of a reduction of 50% in photogram)
- a first attempt and more satisfactory
than I expected it would be - In fact
my little Willow looks so fine
"writ large" I almost wish it was as
big as the picture.

I wish I had 28 new pigeon
holes to spread out in - only I prefer
5 in high for a private collection -

This is not much of a letter but it
will give me excuse for beginning
by and by to look for one from you
which I may as well confess is
largely my motive in writing - Cordially
Bebb

926 Grant Ave
Rockford Ills
April 15th/91

My dear Mr Deane :-

About a month ago I came out from my study, - closing the door behind me with the feeling that pretty much everything that I had set out to do through the winter had been done — for a wonder — and as it was nearing the time for spring operations in the garden I would not make any fresh beginnings in botanical work - By some mysterious coincidence my friends all dropped me completely at the same time - so that I did not receive a single letter to tempt me back - I said to myself Deane is busy - as the time for Easter examinations approaches. - by & by when he has his vacation I will surely hear from him - but vacation time came and passed by and still no letter - then I gave up - accepted the conditions as final - and took the digging in the dirt for consolation.

But I absolve you - If I could take such a splendid trip relieved "from sordid pecuniary thoughts" wouldn't I forget all about letter writing, for a time! What a lot of real, live botanists you met - and how inspiriting the experience must have been - "Why! I have not seen one - not a single one - in a whole year!" Do you wonder that I let go my hold once in a while and take to activities wherein I can find a kindly and loving sympathy in those about me - No - that does not just express what I wished to say, - rather wherein I can give a cordial sympathy - join with others in something that we can all work together in

After our exceptionally mild

winter March proved as a very disagreeable and gloomy month - the sun scarcely showed his face from beginning to end - a long, dreary succession of cloudy days that has told fearfully on the vitality of the weak and aged. The half of April gone has not been much of an improvement - but we try to console ourselves with the reflection that when warm sunny weather does come - it will be with a bound - and we will go right out of winter into summer - as in fact we usually do here in N. Ills -

Nina's wedding - about which you inquire - is set for June 10th - I believe - I do not like to think of her going away from her old home. But then it is in the order of Nature and I must accept the inevitable; We will all miss her very much - Our home life has been a kind of prolonged picnic, - We have not had enough money for each to be able to go their own way quite independent of the rest - so that out of our very deprivation has grown up a habit of mutual dependence - that has drawn us all into a very close family sympathy. Partly through choice - partly from circumstances beyond my control I have - for an American father at least - been able to make companions of my children to an extent~~t~~ rarely vouchsafed to parents at the present day - and I feel all the more the withdrawal of one - only hoping that her loyalty to the old home will be equally shown in the new - and find as loving appreciation -

Yours cordially

M. S. Bebb

926 Grant Ave
Rockford Ills
May, 30th/91

My dear Mr Deane;—

I am a poor correspondent in summer time for a fact!— Unreliable at all seasons —unreliability degenerates into sheer incompetency when warm weather comes. It is not that I care less for the expression of kindly sympathies with those endeared through ties of family or of friendship— but simply that I suffer to grow up an insuperable aversion to the use of pen and paper— trusting, the while that love will bear the strain— I promise myself to turn over

a new leaf when we get up to
the lakes and then I will write
you a long letter about my
way of doing things, about which
you have made flattering
inquiries in your last two letters -
- Neither wife nor I have had
much plus energy this spring -
- both of us have suffered from
a recurrence of something like
La grippe - and with numerous
demands upon all our energies
of both head and heart - there has
been only a feeble life thrown
into the daily ~~tasks~~ tasks of
involved in keeping the house
going - Truly, this is so it gets to be
an old story and every body detests
whining & I should write myself
down as half-sick - This only as
an excuse for delay - Your letters still
remain "unanswered" - Cordially Bell

Lauderdale P.O
Walworth Co, Wis.
July, 8th/91

My dear Mr Doane:-

It matters little where I begin so I do not begin with expenses! Let it be at Annie's Wedding. As I took little part in planning this I can say in all modesty that it was an almost ideal occasion of the kind. Only the nearest relatives and most intimate friends of the family were present so that even our small rooms were not overcrowded. How I wish you and Mrs Doane could have been with us. If we know people by the company they keep, to have met us at this time in the circle gathered about would have been a sort of concentrated illustration of our family character. Mattie and I had planned some simple floral decorations but the dew was not dry on the grass when a few kind friends came in - and in a most unexpected and lavish way heaped up flowers everywhere. The wedding was at noon - but the company remained until train left at half past two and in all this time there was not the suspicion of any flagging in social enjoyment. There were enough young people present to carry things right along even if Dr Kerr and a few old codgers like myself did get into a corner to discuss penology - the school question - our present City government (which is nothing to brag of) &c - There was happily no chance for this sort of thing to spread. Even the ceremony was a surprise. Something our good friend Dr K. picked up in Europe two years ago and had never used but once before - a happy retention of the old rhetoric with much touching closely the thought of the day which came in reverently but like a flash of light thrown over the new rhythms imposed by modern life. There was a caterer in the kitchen but he stayed there, and the company was served by three younger brothers assisted by a few friends of their own age. It was all simple, cordial, unpretentious and home like. The grandsons even when they did the [illegible] they were planned [illegible] our [illegible] very happily caught the spirit in which we desired to have the affair conducted, and so I balanced accounts with Rhode Island!

I hope you may meet Nina soon. She is the girl that used to keep my letters in order for me - and has filed away the many signed W. D - as well as shared too fully in the family liking for the

winter and to wish very much
to meet you.

After the wedding we all said encouragingly one to another — now for the lakes — theres the place to rest! — just hold on for a few days longer and then we can drop everything. So the last box was packed that was to go to Providence and the last trunk that was to go to the Lakes and at last we were off — relief was to be immediate with the first sniff of cool breezes coming in from off the water. Alas for my tired wife and poor Mattie those trunks were not unpacked when we had company come in till we had them at table. And it was partly our own fault — Last summer we had invited friends for a specified time and they had been by some untoward circumstances prevented from coming at that time — when we in a gush of hospitality had said let us give you a lunch — even if it is a cold one" but they declined remarking with what struck me at the time as very good sense that it was enough to send us out at eleven o'clock and if we could just give them a place to sleep they would be all right. After we got back to our own private nook in the cottage my wife whispered "I fairly trembled in my shoes when you began to talk about lunch. I intended to have biscuits for breakfast and to bake in the morning but there isn't a slice of bread in the house!".

How many miles does Mrs Deane make for a starter. I am almost as good-for-nothing as I was this time last year but hope to repeat the picking up experience. Young Macoun has been appointed as secretary to the Commission, this is to report on the Seal Fishery business in Behring Sea. and writes "where our stay at any place is short my intention is to confine myself to the collecting of Willows, Carices and Cryptogams — You will hear from me soon after my return". Hurrah! — And still your inquiries go over to next time

Bell

Oh never mind - you must come next summer - sometime that will suit your convenience" and they took us at our word. and as it suited their convenience to be out of the city they came on the fourth. or rather so as to include that day in their visit. If they had only given us a few days to catch our breath first! for they were really people whom we wished to have with us - whose company we might and would have really enjoyed only we were all so tired out. While there was nothing to do but to brace up and postpone that happy *letting go of things* for still another week ahead.

We have hair-breadth escapes in the matter of supplies sometimes. Two of our friends came in upon us after we were all in bed and asleep. I exclaimed "You must be tired and hungry after your ride

926 Grant Ave
Rockford Ills
Aug 31st/11.

Dear friend Deane:—

We were sitting out under the trees, only a few days before we left the lakes when Hattie burst out with the exclamation "Father! I wish you could meet Mr Deane. You would like him. Everybody likes him. It would just do you lots of good"! All of which I doubt not. The problem for me to solve just at present is, why have I not kept up my end of a correspondence which would at least have wafted over to me a little of that "good" which the fates have thus far withheld in "lots". I can not accept your explanation that I have been "lounging on that comfortable family boat quite oblivious of mundane things". I thought of for time and again – my thoughts coming not altogether as hazy – ill defined reverie – but taking definite shape as if for some possible letter. I knew what I ought to do – and what I really in some sense wanted to do and yet I did not do it – I gave up writing altogether – except a forced business letter – or a few pages now and then to one of the absent children – Possibly so far as botanical correspondence is concerned there may have been a motive at bottom not altogether discreditable – You can not realize what a deserter I have become. There is nothing of the botanist left in me except a certain ability to appreciate work done by others – I have not collected a single specimen – not made a single observation – I have studied nothing – laid out no lines for future activity – planned no work for the coming winter and am conscious that there is the suggestion of sheer fraud in attempting to hold a position on the score of past achievement (if indeed there is anything of that (worth mentioning) when I am doing nothing to make good my claim to recognition as a fellow worker in human narrow and obscure a field - To tell the truth - my good friend - I am kind of stunned and half senseless - I am not very strong and the year has been a trying one - While we were at the lakes there came a hurried letter from my eldest son. that a place had been made vacant in his business and wishing to know if Arthur would like to take it - "reply by telegraph and come as soon as possible" - It was a very promising opening for the young man and after a family council it was thought best that he should accept the place offered. It meant one more day at Lauderdale for the boy - then a day in Rockford with his mother to pack up and then off to Chicago - And so goes another - the third child to leave the parental roof within the year - And it means much to me - - Arthur has grown up from boyhood to young manhood during years when I have been far from strong, and I had come to depend much upon his ever willing helpfulness - and cheerful spirit - In many ways he had quietly taken upon himself cares and duties unusual for a boy of his years and I feel lost without him. The whole home life has to be readjusted -

Now all this is my apology for not writing - and this letter in itself - four pages as thickly strewn with "I's" as Darwin acknowledged one "damnable" paragraph in the Introduction to the Origin of Species - is sufficient proof that it was in the exercise of a wise discretion that I did not inflict upon my friends a multiplicity of like sort,

Yours ever

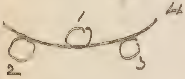
Mrs. Lebb

926 Grand Ave
Rockford Ills
Sept 4th /91

My dear Mr Deane:—

I have never yet told you how I paste down tickets in my herb. As an illustration of how an ordinarily sane person will adopt some crotchety way of doing a thing and stick to it through a life time — although no person before him has ever done the same and no person following is ever likely to repeat the means — I warn the account may amuse you. I warn you before hand so that you may not expect something very commendable and find only a ridiculous quirk instead. You see it was a kind of evolution — the process was — I was living out on an Illinois prairie and left a good deal to my own resources. I first tried the gum tragacanth way so practised at Harvard but did not like the curling up of the sheets. Then I tried fastening the corners but found that in handling, the sheets caught in or under the labels and tore them loose. Next came fastening the entire upper edge leaving the rest of the label loose as recommended by Gray:

an excellent way, but lacking in neatness and a look of perfect security. Up to this time I had been using gum arabic paste-thick—but still fluid enough to work with a small brush. The next step with a few experiments this way and that—led to the adoption substantially of my present method and this I have steadily adhered to for more than twenty five years. Specimens &c are arranged on the sheet before gluing so that there may be no mistake in spacing specimens, labels, packets &c. But the labels are left lying on the sheet loose till the entire gluing process is through with. I then lay before me a pile of the mounted sheets and proceed to attach the labels. At my right hand is placed a tablet of wedgewood ware (a plate turned up side down is just as good). I take from a wide-mouthed vial about half a teaspoonful of gum-arabic as thick as honey (Dennison's gum very slightly thinned is just as good if not better) and place it on the tablet or plate. Lying on the plate is a stick of elastic wood ¼ in. square at the handle-end (so to speak) but shaved down thin like a spattula at the other. With this I draw off to one side a portion of the gum and rubbing it around on the tablet get a thin smearing of gum on the flat side of the stick. Now by ~~[illegible]~~ taking the ticket in my left hand ~~bottom~~ side up ~~down~~ pressing the middle down with my thumb while supporting the top and bottom edges with two fingers the edge next the right hand will present quite a firm resistance (Will a diagram help to elucidate this?)



1 thumb
2. 3. fingers
4 edge. In this position I take my spattula and by a dexterous movement — like drawing a fiddle bow over a string only with a slide or turn combined with it I distribute a thin edge of gum just where I want it — the thinner the better. The ticket of course has to be shifted 4 times to get at all the edges. This done it is laid in place — pressed down and the attachment is immediate. I have gone through the business so much and so often that I have become quite expert and do the work much more rapidly than you would imagine from this recital. If your gum is too thin it will be apt to get out on the sheet from under the edge of the label and get both sticky — or else the label won't stick —

If too thick it may dry before you get the label on – Having attached the label I [illegible] occasion the [illegible] necessary staying strips – to put fruits &c in pockets – and in general to have a nice time making the acquaintance of the new comer before he goes to his place in the herb. whence I may not find him again in years –

I never tried to do any gluing by lamplight till I learned the trick from you – It was formerly my rule to glue during the day and attach labels &c during the evening – The work can be better done at night (I fancy) for by holding the label between you and the light the thin edge of gum glistens and you can see just what you are doing – It would be much easier to show you than attempt to explain but what I have said will be enough to convince you that you can find, for your purpose – some better way –

You once asked me something about the use of two wires to suspend the brush over the glue pot – but I find they were only desirable where glue was used hot. In using Dennison's gum I have taken to your method.

Cordially – as ever –

M. S. Bebb

926 Grant Ave
Rockford Ills
Dec 2d/91

My dear Mr Deane:—

It has been about the height of my ambition throughout the summer season just past to preserve a serene disposition and keep out from under the feet of busy people still having this worlds work to do. Nothing accomplished botanically, absolutely nothing either afield or in the study,– It was not wholly discreditable nor wholly selfish on my part – the refraining from any demonstration of the vacuity of your whilom correspondent. Even now had you asked me for one of my "old-time" stupid "talks" I might

have felt in a degree encouraged
to believe that I could satisfy
you on demand -

However I am mending -
progressing - on the up grade - or
what you will - I feel stronger
and more ambitious than I have
for months - I made out a list
of things that had been neglected -
and you may judge for yourself
whether I feel plucky or not when
I tell you that I deliberately chose
the most disagreeable duties to
perform first - and so worked
up - and from the fact that I am
now writing a letter to my good
friend Deane you may safely
conclude that with a comforting
consciousness of having at last
done the things which ought to
have been done (some of them months
ago) I have worked my way
up to the top -

I have furthermore a pleasant
bit of Willow work in store for
the leisure that comes to me
after the holidays - nothing less
than three collections from Alaska
to work up - One from the Agricultural
Dept Washington - One from Macoun -
the third from Miss Cooley, of Wellesley -
The latter very interesting from the
fact that it was made at 2,000 ft
alt. and I may mention in passing
shows our old friend *Salix arctica*
Pallas so modified in consequence
that it looks very much as if it
would ultimately be shown to connect
with forms of the Cascades and
Rocky Mtns which have heretofore
been referred to S. *Brownii* Bebb

(= S. arctica R. Br not of Pallas). – If the two should have to be united after all it would untangle for good the synonymy – only the species of Pallas (the big leaved thing of the Alaskan coast) would stand for the type and not the _arctica_ of R. Br.

That was a sort of "business" letter I wrote Dr Watson – He wanted to know something about the _root_ of _Parthenium integrifolium_ and _I was obliged to confess that I never had seen it_ – that I had not seen Parthenium growing anyway since I left Fountaindale – ten or twelve years ago – and that prior to that period when I did do some collecting I had not the benefit of one Walter Deanes stimulating example – By the way did the joke ever get round to you, I wonder, that after your return from Washington – hilarious over your recent and extensive acquisition of desiderata you wrote to Faxon about some New England _Asters_ adding "you need not be particular about the roots" – Some apprehensions had been entertained before that your head was a little turned but this was taken as evidence conclusive!!

Yes! I did let Synthyris give me the slip – I find that July and August is too late for it – I must get it about here – Such a drouth as we had last summer! Everything was burned up – I did look at some miserable plants – quite leafless – that grew near our Cottage and was reminded of my promise – and if I had had my wits about me I might at least have sent you the roots – But as it was I let the whole business go

I am glad to receive such a

good report as to Mrs Deanes health. Perhaps I could give her some pointers on the avoidance of overdoing — more particularly in the matter of letter writing, but am apprehensive that my advice might not be regarded as furnishing a good working method in the conduct of life —

My warmest regards to your wife and believe me — whether I write or do not. That I am

Ever your sincere friend

Wm. S. Bebb

Jan 1892

AILY REGISTER-GAZETT

DEATH OF MRS. WM. BEBB.

SUCCUMBED TO THE GRIP AT A RIPE OLD AGE.

She Was the Wife of Ex-Gov. Wm. Bebb and a Resident of This County for Over 40 Years—A Charitable, Kindly Woman Beloved By All.

Sarah, wife of ex-Governor William Bebb, died at 5:30 Sunday morning, at her home at 530 North Main street, aged 88 years.

The dead woman had been ill for less than a week. Two weeks ago Sunday she observed her 88th birthday, a number of relatives being present. She then seemed to be in the enjoyment of excellent health. Thursday last she was prostrated with an attack of grip, which, at her advanced age, she was unable to combat. It was a consolation to the friends, however, that she passed quietly into the sleep of death and retained her faculties to the last.

The dead woman was born in Butler county, Ohio. Her husband was a successful lawyer and became prominent in politics. In early days he was a whig, and in 1846 was nominated for governor on that ticket and elected by an overwhelming majority. At the close of his term he declined a renomination.

When the republican party was organized he embraced its principles. He was an earnest opponent of slavery, and in Lincoln's campaign stumped Illinois and Indiana.

They removed to this county in 1850, purchasing 5,000 acres of land in Seward and Byron and settling down to pioneer life. This was done because of a desire on the part of Mr. Bebb to lead a more retired life. He was not left entirely alone, however, for in 1852 he was chosen presidential elector on the Scott ticket. In 1869 he removed to Rockford.

Mrs. Bebb's maiden name was Sarah Shuck. She was a woman peculiarly devoted to her home, kindly, charitable and beloved of all who knew her. She was a member of the church of the Christian Union.

Two sons and two daughters survive. The sons are Prof. M. S. Bebb, Edward Bebb and Miss Mary Bebb, of this city, and Mrs. J. P. Reynolds, of Chicago. The latter's husband is director-in-chief of the Illinois commission of the World's fair.

On account of illness in the family, enterment will be postponed for a time. There was a brief funeral service at 2 o'clock this afternoon, Dr. Kerr officiating, and the remains were placed in a receiving vault.

926 Grand Ave
Rockford Ills
~~Sept~~ Jan 12th/92

My dear friend Deane:

I was four days old on my mothers 30th birthday. The Sunday after last Christmas she celebrated her 88th anniversary. -giving a dinner party to her children which she not only personally superintended but she even ~~she~~ prepared with her own hand a part of the feast. She seemed to us all to be unusually vigorous both in mind and body, for one of her advanced years. As I went into the room to meet her I laughingly said - "Well! mother I imagine you didn't feel much like having a birthday party of your own 58 years ago." She laughs

the allusion quick as a flash-
-No. said she- "I can not remember just what did happen exactly 58 years ago but I remember very distinctly what happened four days before-" and then she gave me a circumstantial account of the home life on the day I was born- My father was at that time keeping a boys boarding school in the country- a school set down in the midst of social surroundings such as are well described by Eggleston in his Hoosier School Master- After the excitement of this birth day gathering of her children passed off mother seemed weaker than usual- but not more than we should expect as the natural reaction from the over-stimulating of both mind and body -The next Sunday she had a chill- premonitory, as it turned out of an attack- of La grippe

and last Sunday morning at 5 A.M. she died – It was the closing of a long and useful life – indeed it was only four days preceding her death in which she ceased to be the helper of those about her and became _herself_ helpless – Two traits in her character were so predominant as to be at once recognized by every one with whom she came into personal relations First and absolutely unswerving conscientiousness: second a wonderful placidity of demeanor! I never saw her hilarious – I never saw her prostrated – _overcome_ – by grief and trouble. I can remember her distinctly since I was 6 or 7 years old – I think I could not have been more than barely in my teens when the question presented itself to my mind – which even at this late day – when the life is closed - and its long stretch lies before me in review - must still remain unanswered - was this strange evenness of temper the result of an obscure but nevertheless predominating will - or did it come from the absence of intense sensibility? - was it self control or the absence of passion? I was born and brought up under a rule happily outlived in New England long before your day that magnified the distance between parents and children under the mistaken notion that such reserve promoted family discipline - Neither my mother nor myself ever overcame years of experience of this sort - Time and time again I have resolved that when some gladsome occasion offered I would take my mother in my arms and waltz her about the room as I used my wife and break into ~~slak~~ smithereens the miserable old decorum - But alack when the time came mine was not the ruling spirit and I quietly deported myself as a good and respectful boy! The house on Main Street will not be "Grandmother's" any more and I shall feel sad to drop out of life the morning call to see if anything was wanted from down town —

It has been a year of unexpected vicissitudes to me — Time and again I have congratulated myself that as Antoninus says of his father "I loved to stay in the same places and to employ myself about the same things" but all this has been broken up and I have had heart and hands full of first one thing and then another which forced upon me unusual activities —

I was glad to be remembered

at Christmas time and it was like you to send me the daily bulletins while Mr Watson's condition was such as to fill us all with grave anxiety — this is the first letter I have written, except to the absent children — in weeks I do hope before long — to get back where I can tell my good friends how much I appreciate their kindnesses instead of waiting to have them showered upon me — day after day — and gratitude taken on trust.

Ever faithfully yours

M. L. Bebb

926 Grant-Ave
Rockford Ills
Jan 17th/92

My dear Mr Deane:—

I have just received the late edition of "Pattersons Check List of the Plants of North America"— very like the first only revised to date and with "finding numbers" after Durand- added - What a discouraging publication it is — so big and most of us know so little! That it finds purchasers is evident from the exhaustion of the first edition but it seems to me I can count on my fingers, the herbaria of the United States in which it would find practical and full use - Now that we have taken in the whole Continent I do wish there might be a reaction toward the more painstaking study of local floras - When the first list of the plants of Grays Manual was published that was something that quite a lot of us could comprehend in the full sense of the word - And on the title page was printed "addapted for indicating desiderata in the exchange of specimens" that was what it was for and there was no hesitancy in saying so - Field botanists and collectors hadn't as yet been sneered out of existence or into some sort of shame faced covering up of the thing they really liked to do. - The plants of Chapmans Flora were soon added and then the prairie fire broke loose and swept over the whole country -

As for "finding numbers," in the average amateur herbarium. They are an abomination - a crutch to tempt the amateur aforesaid to let himself down into a mere curator instead of being made a botanist of very necessity

Mattie has gone into Chicago to visit among relations - will ~~proby~~, not return till the 18th of February. The house seems deserted without her presence - In fact during school hours wife and I are quite alone - and at breakfast and dinner there is only Walter and Frank - Recalling the fact ~~that~~ at this time one year ago we had regularly at the family table eight persons - you can get some idea of the change -

The weather with us - as you may have learned from the newspapers has been very steadily cold since New Years days - All day long, Jan 1st it rained - with a slight snow fall toward evening - following, which we had about a week of moderately cold weather - thermometer keeping pretty closely about say 20° Farenheit

Then as the whole country north of us cooled down there was a drop to about zero - say - 10° at night and plus 10° in the middle of the day - Yesterday was slightly warmer but we are promised a return to the old figures by to night - A thin skim of ice not thicker than window glass which formed on the sidewalks on the night of Jan 1st - has never melted. This fact - better than anything else indicates how steadily cold the weather has been -

I am intending to tackle the Willows this very week - A very empty hip-pocket has been entirely useless for a long time - I do not anticipate its filling now - but it may nevertheless -

If you have time tell me what interests you these days in botany - how the herbarium grows &c &c - Kindest regards to Mrs Deane whom I hope may have long ere this recovered from her illness -

Ever sincerely

O Bebb

926 Grant Ave
Rockford Ills
Feb 5th/92

My dear Mr Deane:-

I have been fussing over Willows - my usual winter occupation - and have really become quite enthusiastic - It began with work done in a perfunctory way to discharge obligations to others - but in the prosecution of these certain fresh lines of investigation had to be followed up and these in the end led to a better understanding of some old questions laid aside as unanswerable - Finding my way clear I was in fine mood to go on and block out three or four batches of Willow Notes for the Gazette - It is only in this way, now, that I can keep up the pleasant illusion that I still belong to the fraternity of working botanists. I envy you your industry and vim — but after all this is only relative — Young Macoun writes that his "hours are from 8 A.M. till midnight with an hour off for luncheon and dinner" (presumably half an hour for each) I wrote him that he might work that way in Germany but he had better stop right off or he would get a rap on the head to remind him that the thing couldn't be done in this climate.

I wish I *could* share your hope and expectation that when Dr Watson's "pulse" goes down he must "improve rapidly". So many cases have come under my observation of *grippe* complicated with pneumonia in persons past middle life where recovery has been very slow — if indeed complete recovery is ever reached — that I dare not — in any case feel quite the degree of assurance which I might have done before we came to the painful realization of the wreck and havoc—both mental and physical, which the disease has left in its train. Of course there are exceptions—in fact no two cases seem to be alike and our good friend has on his side that soundness of mind and body due to temperate and healthful employments which must count largely in his favor—

Yes! Dr Vasey's Grasses of the Southwest is indeed fine—Do you know I could not help thinking as I looked at each species with its analysis of spikelet—and separate description on the page facing the plate how nice it would be to take the whole book to pieces and distribute the illustrations in the herbarium—I am sure that is what I should

do if they were willows - As I wrote
Dr V. in acknowledging the receipt of
the book it reminded me pleasantly
of the first favor I ever received
from a botanical friend - which
was a package of grasses - sedges
and Juncacei - which the good Doctor
sent me when he was living at
Ringwood - (McHenry Co - Northern Ills)
I had been doing just enough
unaided and alone to fully
appreciate the gift.

Mattie is still visiting in Chicago
and the house is lonesome without
her presence - Mrs B. and the two
boys at home are very well and
as for myself I haven't gone through
a winter as far as February - for
two years past feeling as strong
and like doing things as I do
now -

With kind regards to Mrs Dean
I am

Yours sincerely
M. S. Bebb

926 Grant ave

Rockford Ills

Feb 24th/92

Dear Mr Deane:—

Wife and I have just been celebrating the Twenty Fifth anniversary of our marriage— All the scattered members of the family that could do so returned to the old home and we have had a very happy family reunion— There was none who was not content with present achievement and hopeful for the future. All were in good health - no little cloud of anxiety not larger than a mans hand that might by sorrowful mischance spread and darken the whole horizon was to be discerned. and thus it came that good spirits were intensified by reverberation — We had all been anxious about Will - for after working his way faithfully to a remunerative position in a bank he had thrown the whole thing up because he found that he would never be content to make ~~as~~ a banking and brokerage a life-long work- Just as he was in despair of finding a place- in fact not knowing just what place to seek- he received a most flattering offer of a position as assistant in the State Laboratory of Natural History under Prof Forbes- to work in Entomology- This suddenly turned what had all along been a recreation merely- into a bread and butter occupation- He is very happy and we all rejoice with him.

My worst fears are confirmed by your last letter concerning our good friend D Watson- but receiving no bulletin from you since I construe into good news- so far as it leads to the hope that his condition is better- and perhaps more encouraging But as you say if he has done his last work who is there to take his place?

I have just been re-reading Coulters Address before Section F- A.A.A.S. -Do you like it- or does it with

When ever was Systematic Botany a mere "juggle of names and sequence" – unless since MacMillan and such fellows have turned back upon it and find delight in doing nothing but "juggle with names" – I have heard this charge over and over again – – it makes me sick at heart to have so good a man as Coulter reiterate it, – Not alone in the high places where it is not really intended to be lodged but in the very humblest conceivable it is not true – and nobody knows this better than Coulter! – The mere school boy who in Spring time learns to recognize three species of Ranunculus – sees wherein they differ as species. and wherein they resemble each other as belonging to the same genus has made a creditable start in Systematic Botany, – consciously or unconsciously he recognizes the fact of a significance underlying the objects of his study – quite different from that of three different postage stamps in his album – Now sneer at his achievement – call him a "hod carrier" you as it does with me stir up a feeling of indignant resentment? Does it faithfully give us the honest *sentiments* of President Coulter or does it betray a miserable truckling to what he knew full well was the prejudiced opinions of his auditors? How do you relish being classed among "hod carriers" - you veterans in Botany characterized as "ancient but best treated with courtesy"? and being compared with "*the poor*" as something ever present but to be endured with as good a grace as possible? In the days when DeCandolle - Bentham, Hooker Torrey - Gray, and a host of others were the recognized leaders in Systematic Botany it was a "corpse" dead but "not buried" now thanks to the "gush of work" done by the "life history" chaps it is being "revivified" - Being dead why was it never buried alack - The "life history" fellows had undertaken too big a job - *thats all*.

tell him that he has the earliest symptoms of a "mania" and that at best - if he does his field work in the most creditable way, possible that he is a mere mudsill. and how much enthusiasm will he continue to feel;

For my own part I have waited and hoped long for a reaction in public sentiment - and I think I ~~can~~ begin to see ~~the beginning~~ a faint glimmering of the dawn - I do not care to throw mud balls back in return for all that these "life history" chaps have sought to make stick on a department of botany in which I feel the deepest interest - I have only this to say - You promised much - you have been at work for twenty years - Show us your results! It is something to have the President of Section F as spokesman of the whole, admit that although proclaimed dead - and only falling short of fitting obsequies because suspicion was abroad that it might be only a case of catalepsy - Systematic Botany is still very much alive, and destined to remain so ~~and~~ which being the case the best thing to do is to treat it with courtesy - All right: now fetch along your "courtesy"! Stop throwing mud - Our worthy President of Section F says that this has only been a freak of "too exuberant vigor of youth and he "glories in it" but if you please there will be more peace in the household if we cease to exhibit our "courtesy" in that way.

We are having no end of dripping skies and mud underfoot - very dismal weather - Mattie is home again - glad of that -

Kindest regards to Mrs Deane

Yours as ever

M S Bebb

926 Grant ave
Rockford Ills
March 9th/92

My dear Mr Deane:—

I fully appreciate the situation and am only thankful that you send me the brief bulletins - when I know how many you must have to write, Besides you have always been a model correspondent in not keeping strict account of obligations - I fear I should have missed many a delightful letter if you had held me always to a strict rule of "keeping up my end of the corner" and it were a pity if your friends can not remember this when your own spare time is now so absorbed in service, all alike [illegible] expectant [illegible] which with these bulletins which who else would write or think of writing? I have only refrained from writing in reply - or writing anything - because I read on the card before me March 6th - this is the eighth - three more days may elapse before you read this page - in six days what may have come! The end is inevitable and imminent - but who has the heart to utter one word of all the questionings and forecasts that beset the least - the most humble one - of the fraternity in which our good friend was such a notable worker. Who is there to take his place?

Cordially

Bebb

926 Grant ave
Rockford Ills
March 13th/92

Dear Mr Deane:—

I received Mrs Deanes card and President Eliots Journal announcement in the same mail — Sunday morning. It is indeed a sad sad loss. In one respect more abrupt and final than the Death of Dr Gray even — Any person who had ever known how work went on in this room where both had their desks — how complete was the co-operation — how for years on years the work ~~this work~~ on either side published under one name or the other really represented the judgment of both — knew that Dr Watson was qualified as no other person could be to carry on to completion the Synoptical Flora - in the very spirit in which it was conceived - In the main it was a compilation anyway and while the parts issued by Gray were so to speak the work of Gray and Watson - those issued by Watson would have been the work of Watson *and Gray*. - But now the work ends! It will no more be finished than the old Flora of Torrey & Gray was ever finished - - Not that I care so very much - - for over and over again my cry is not for extent and brevity but for local Floras and fullness of detail - If we could have a "*Flora Cestrica*" more than fifty years ago why can't we have something like it to-day. - As I recall all the work I have done in past

years to form a general herbarium
I envy you your better judgment
in setting your limits to
coincide with Grays Manual. If
I were a young man and had
the work to do over again I am
not sure but I would limit
myself to Illinois. But I would
do my work inside that limit so
effectually that for all time my
herbarium would stand as the
exemplification of what was
known of Illinois plants in my
life time. However I have got B
in the Willows and can gratify my
desire to "Concentrate my efforts
on the dative case" in that way.
I shall await with much interest
the publication of a Memoir of

our departed friend - I knew Dr Gray personally - Watson I only met once - our friendship had grown out of correspondence almost intimacy - Gray was impulsive - communicative - I did not need to be told much about his life - Watson - to me at least - was reserved - and I am very curious to know something of his life before he joined the King expd. - As Dr Gray said "I want to know where he had been all the while" How he came to be prepared to write that admirable report - &c - &c

I have gone through this winter in better health and spirits than any winter for two or three years back - and - hoping to meet spring several degrees higher in physical vigor than I did last year to build upon my advantage - and perhaps to some collecting - *Synthyris* - Fls & fr of *Salix amygdaloides* and so on

Cordially M S Bebb

926 Grant Ave
Rockford Ills
March 29th/92

My dear Mr Deane:—

What's the matter?
I— yea verily poor I: forging to the front as a virtuous and exemplary correspondent while W. D. the ever prompt is falling into arrears!— Is it stress of school work preceding the Easter vacations— examinations and all that— or have you with rigorous and inflexible purpose set yourself to catch up all herbarium work before the collecting season opens. and formed as a condition of success that you must serve all alike and let letter writing go!

I have been playing general botanist just a little - or rather I have let the Willows take a rest and have been picking up odds and ends for the season of 91. and mounting the same. A few years ago I found a little Stellaria (of which I took only a single specimen) growing on a cold-mossy shore of Lauderdale Lake - I suspected at the time its identity but *unluckily* before I found time after I had returned to books and herbarium to make a careful determination the thing got mislaid - Lately I found it - and it is really - as I thought at first it might be. *Stellaria crassifolia* - Now I am impatient to visit the locality again and see if I can find more of it.

I had an unexpected and very agreeable surprise Saturday in receiving without previous notification a collection of Willows for determination made by parties sent out by the Agl. Dept to explore Death Valley, Cal. To come down from Alaska - line of perpetual snow - Aleutian Islands - and all that sort of thing, to a place that is probably as hot a hole as can be found on the N. Amer. continent was quite a change - But the material after all is very familiar - of the general desert character of S. Calif for the basin itself - and the Sierra Nevada - for the mountains that surround it

On the outside of my envelope you will have found a map of Lauderdale Lake. which will give you a better idea than I have perhaps heretofore conveyed - of the irregularity of its shores - This makes boating a great pleasure - for every ten minutes the view is quite changed - if you are moving - The photo. I sent last christmas represents the view from Beloit Island looking southward - The most distant line of timber seen in the picture being Wilkinsons forest - that in the mid distance seen on the right being Carswells Park - But don't let these high sounding names mislead - The lake is simply as yet a place where some of us can go and find a quiet that does not prevail around lakes not so very far from us - 10-12 miles - Delavan, Geneva &c which are overrun by Chicago people - A class characterised by our neighbors servants as - "Them as has rizzen" - If this is not the bottom of my 4th page! and I only intended to write two pages an to call your attention to the fact

that I was storing up for an exhaltation of some person of delinquency on my note paid - Cordially - J Bell

926 Grant Ave
Rockford Ills
April 14th/92

My dear Mr Deane:—

It is not often that one is driven in-doors at this season of the year by such inclement weather: a chilly northeast wind driving before it a mixture of snow, sleet and rain. The poor crocuses in the border under my window look decidedly discouraged. A chance for what the author of *My Farm of Edgewood* called "wet weather work" which in the present instance shall be looking over your friend Mrs Churchills Willows—Here in hand

1. *Salix discolor* Muhl, ♂
2 " " " ♀
3 " *rostrata*, Richardson
4 " " "
5 I think this is a hybrid Salix

cordata × sericea - but a form near cordata - It is not very *safe sailing* in determining staminate hybrids - Among Willows as among the members of higher social groups the female is depended upon to establish the status of the pair - the male being of less account but making more show - I'm afraid my metaphor is breaking down in this last figure so to come down to plain science - I had down at Fountaindale a staminate S. petiolaris × cordata - which in many ways was so much like this plant that I am led to believe that the living plant would show more clearly the intermediate character than do these detached specimens -

6 *S. discolor* Muhl. Form with very large aments -

7 *S. cordata*, Muhl.

8 *S. cordata × sericea* No question about this!

9. S. sericea. Marsh
10. S. cordata, Muhl
11. S. rostrata, Rich
12. S. humilis Marsh ? abnormal
13. S. rostrata Rich

I believe the above determinations will all stand criticism unless there may be some doubt about No 5 – By comparing the living plant with forms of cordata and sericea growing in the same locality Mr Churchill might – I doubt not – reach a more satisfactory decision – than I feel justified in making from the specimens before me –

If your friend can reach No 8 without great inconvenience I would be glad to have cuttings for cultivation, (I don't get over my old desire to see these odd things growing even if I am restricted in my gardening operations to a city lot)

Cuttings may be 8 in long - *Taken from the base of year-old shoots* (so as to get leaf buds and avoid the flower buds of the upper portion).
-4- 6 cuttings simply to multiply chances of success - wrapped in a little paper such as grocers use over butter &c or any impervious material - with a manilla outside wrapping for the address &c - For a short journey at this season - no moisture in the shape of damp moss or its equivalent need be used - But do not have your friend bother if he has little leisure at command and the bush is far off.

"My herbarium is in perfect shape - 1500 sheets have entered it since last May 1st. Everything is mounted and distributed with almost no exception - My duplicates - between 700 & 800 species are all in perfect order" - You do not say this you have a card index a-la-Ward also in perfect order - and a corresponding Index Rerum for all current botanical literature relating to the same special field with also a box with a slot a-la-DeCandolle into which to drop all notes made while the matter was fresh in mind - to be distributed when opportunity offered - - You don't say this - but I am prepared for most anything - Well I did keep things up "once upon a time" myself but two or three untoward circumstances got me so hopelessly behindhand that I never caught up -

So you go to Jaffrey again - Well you must remember me for a series of Solidago virga aurea and allied forms - If I keep reasonably well I promise you I will not drop letter-writing as I did last summer - It is too soon to make predictions with any degree of assurance but throughout the entire N. West there is certainly at this time the prospect that we may escape this season the excessive droughts which have been so trying for five years past. - If so I may find some Asters once more worth taking for specimens - It has really been not altogether my own fault that I have done so little collecting - - The plants to begin with were not to be had in decent shape for herbarium specimens - Asters and Solidagos especially, with just a poor half starved tuft of blossoms surmounting a tall stem from which hung dead and brown the remains of what few leaves the plant ever did possess -

Cordially yours

M. S. Bebb

926 Grant ave
Rockford Ills
April 28th/92

Dear Mrs Deane

I received yesterday yours of the 24th and to-day the cuttings - Please accept for yourself and convey to your friend Mr Churchill my sincere thanks - The cuttings were as fresh and bright when opened as on the day you packed them - As both Salix cordata and S. sericea are very easily grown from cuttings and the hybrid - if anything still easier I have no fears but what out of all I will get what I desire - a good thrifty bush.

There is no bark in

any little botanical library that I enjoy more than I do the *Flora Cestrica* ed of '37. I could wish that yours was of this imprint but from the fact that Dr Watson in his Index quotes the ed of '53 I fear otherwise – The first is a charming book with its old Linnaean arrangement – detailed and picturesque – full and methodical descriptions and notes and observations on the then interesting questions of identity &c The ed of '53 is a poor affair in comparison – clipped and trimmed to suit Grays Manual which had appeared *ad-interim* – *emasculated* – almost all the delightful personal flavor gone. I have avoided using the word edition – because I believe that Darlington himself and many others compiled the "Florula Cestrica" the 1st ed – making the Flora Cestrica of '37 = ed 2 and the last, ed 3 –

We have had a cheerless monotony of leaden skies and cold northeast winds all through April so far – Things came up green three weeks ago – they have turned purple since but have not grown a particle – Peas and so-on in the Kitchen garden got their heads above ground but wisely concluded to stop there and wait for warmer weather –

I would have been wise to have heeded my friends advice and gone south in March to meet advancing spring – But

I had got through the winter so comfortably and it seemed as if it were only a matter of a few days when we would have "balmy spring" — possibly summer" come with a bound" Instead of that April has been the most miserable month of the cold season -

I congratulate you that your 44 years does not count against youthfulness of spirit - I had not thought of your being "44" anyway - by any sort of count -

Mattie is very well - she says "I will write from Lauderdale sometime" - An agreeable thought to me for somehow with all my good resolutions I do get awfully lazy and selfish up there and she may help me out a bit —

Kindest regards to Mrs Deane

Cordially
J Zell

926 Grant Ave
Rockford Ills
May 13th/92

Dear Mr Deane -

I had not heard of Prof Baileys critical condition before your letter which at the same time bears the good news of a successful operation. How strangely familiar the word appendicitis has become within a year or two - Less than a month ago a boy was operated upon in our own hospital here in R - successfully - An orange seed was the exciting cause of irritation

At first I wrote Mr Morton that while I thoroughly sympathized with those who were seeking to improve the character of Herbarium specimens — and while I would gladly pay, 25cts if only for the satisfaction of reading the list of approved members — I felt that it might be not altogether right for me to allow my name to appear among them as I certainly could no longer claim the recognition as an active collector — Later I thought I would *go on* if only for the sake of "honorable mention" — — but had I known that the list would be so short and the individual names so conspicuous on this account I would not have done so — There must be — in the very nature of the case — a difficulty in specifying what is really first class material - In not a few instances what Mr M- calls a perfect specimen is only obtained after years of patient accumulation in the herbarium - though ~~in~~ with the majority of plants specimens exhibiting the totality of character for the species may be collected for distribution with some pains-taking - For my own part I am always content with really good material which in part at least contributes to the perfect best illustration, I had splendid leaves of Sarracenia flava for ten years before I ever received the flower - and when a good

friend sends me a *flower* only
he was perverse in his report
that he could not visit the
locality in season for good
leaves! the two gatherings give
me a perfect specimen — No!
Come to think of it I have not
either root or fruit — and if I
were to extend my idea of
"perfection" to the measure of your
own showing of Sarracenia
purpurea — about which you wrote
me years ago — I should be in
despair!

Spring is certainly not
"*bursting*" upon *us*! I can not
conceive of weather more like
what we imagine they have in
England than that which has
hung over us for months —
And my leaves! I wish you could

see it – such a velvety surface
and intense emerald green! –
The only shrub in full bloom
is Pyrus Japonica – The Tartarian
Honeysuckles and Spirea Van
Houttii – rival in verdure the
the lawn – It seemed as if
that most charming of early spring
flowers Scilla Sibirica would never
cease blossoming – A single hot
day would have used it up but
the day has not come yet and
so it has kept on and on – I
know a little now what it is
that makes the Englishman such
an enthusiastic gardener – Every
shrub he sets out grows – a dry spell
does not come to kill it – his
tulips and hyacinths last twice
as long as they do ordinarily in

this country - he don't have the surface of his garden brick one day and sun dried bricks the next - Ah, well I'm certain he must raise his strawberries under glass and what not else must he forego which our sunny and summer skies give us in compensation

You ought not to have been at the trouble and expense of returning by itself that Barratt MS of mine - You could have sent it anytime - with _Holidays Annuals_ for instance. I fancy you are getting things all snugged up - arranged in _apple pie order_.

I want No 8 of the list of your Dupe Pamphlets - herewith returned - Others I either am fortunate enough to possess already - or else as in the case of No 10 they are somewhat out of my line and would be better appreciated by some other correspondent. Many thanks for the privilege of making the selection.

Cordially yours ever
W. L. Beth

926 Grant Ave
Rockford Ills
June 12th/92

My dear friend Dame

I want to write you an omnibus letter of thanks for late favors - let it be construed to include all and singular - of things to be mentioned and things that may be overlooked just now - and which are safely stored away for future attention - If of reading matter - including your tender Tribute to Bryant - depend upon it it has gone into a trunk marked Lauderdale Lakes - if letters - let me say that the warmth of the reception must not be measured by the tardiness of reply - Yes I read your "notice of Dr Watson" as you modestly term

it – and am ashamed of *myself* for
failing to express my thanks –
I had read it – of course – in the
Bulletin – but am none the less
glad to have it separate – But
after all how little have of you
who have known Watson for years
and years – Deane – Coulter – Sargent
– Brown – have to tell me – who only
knew him personally through a single
brief visit of a few days – with years
of correspondence superadded – I expected
much and you have all but little
to tell me that I did not know before –
– Some one of you ought to have
brought in Dr Torreys exclamation when
he saw an early copy of the King Ex
Rep. at Cambridge – "Where have you
been all these years?" – Well you
did tell us that – but somehow it
does not seem to belong to Watson –
I've no doubt you gave that
Bot. Club of Harvard Univ – some
good ideas – and a deal of *good*
inspiration – and a practical

exhibit of good work. And yet I have a mind to lecture the lecturer. What use have *you* for a tin box? and moreover what but mischievous results come from using a woven wire frame for a portfolio. which according to my ideas ought to be *impervious*! - But I would have given a cookie to see 50 of your choice sheets - "hung up on a line" -

Honestly and truly I have been as busy as a teacher in a Latin School three weeks before Commencement Examinations - Mrs B. has gone to Home (at Willsborough N.Y.) where there is a very young Miss Margaret Mason, Mother and child both doing remarkably well - Mattie is our housekeeper - and a capital one she is too!

We are having some fine weather at last - air pure - full of ozone - bracing. I am so thankful to escape at last from a monotony of East winds and "Scotch mist."

Not very enthusiastic botanically - seem to belong to "a class of botanists fast passing away" and the thought is not inspiriting - As Rand says "The Bulletin seems to be given over to the nomenmaniacs and the Gazette to the life-history chaps" But I will do some collecting up at Lauderdale - that is a pleasure always - pure and simple -

Cordially as ever

M. S. Bebb

Lauderdale, Wis.
July 16th/92

My dear Mr Deane:—

We came up here a week ago to-day, and already things are so settled in their places that it seems as if we had been living here right along since last summer. For my own part I was loth to leave Rockford quite so soon. There had been no weather to provoke a hankering after lake-side cottage life and goodness knows we had had enough of water this spring not to care for a further intimacy. But the children were importunate and I could assign no other reason for wishing to stay except that I wanted to look after the garden and enjoy the Sweet Peas that were just coming into blossom — I have done a little collecting but it is scarcely worth mentioning only, as an earnest of better to come — I have been trying to make some good specimens of our Western Pond Lily but it is a different subject. The petals — like the leaves — have one surface from which the moisture escapes readily and the other almost as impervious as if varnished. It follows that where the petals lie thickly superposed near the centre they dry very slowly and as a consequence discolor. I have also gathered some Carex Tribuloides var Bebbii — partly because it is almost the only Carex that has not gone by — partly no doubt for its name's sake — Bailey says of this "common throughout" but I have never received it from any locality east of Michigan (Dr Clarke) From Mich. westward it is indeed common and looking afield — more so than in the herbarium — like a good species. If you have this from the eastern states please remember me for a specimen — and I will give the necessary thanks made in your Duplicate

Herb. my specimens from Harvard etc —
There must be good social or other inducements to carry you to a region where the flora has been so thoroughly explored that a botanist and an enthusiastic collector like yourself is reduced to "circling about in front of the house" on a bicycle for exercise! On the "streets of Cambridge" I should not have been "surprised"!

With W. W. Bailey I have had occasional correspondence for years but I have never met him — Mattie says that his wife and children are "lovely".

Cratty sent me, some time ago a plant for identification which he said he "couldn't even guess at" — It was nothing less than Carex sychnocephala! He is in hopes to get more of it this season — I had a few meagre specimens – including some from the original collections of Kneiskern and Vasey – but all bunched together and doubled five times over they could not have equalled Cratty's one specimen –

I did a little piece of botanical work. and it was work for I was dressed to it – just before I came away from library and herbarium – viz. reporting on the Willows of the Death Valley Expedition – I have been thinking for sometime that I should have to knock Salix Californica mihi in the head and Coville's specimens from the Sierra Nevada finished the business – S. Barclayi Anders. as now understood has a range from Alaska southward along the Cascades & Sierra Nevada to California and presents another of those problem species which it were just as reasonable to call three or four as one – for even this one presents an almost unbroken transition from S. cordata to S. ~~[illegible]~~ glauca
I imagine I never so much as once thought ten years ago that S. Californica might be only a variety of a species which as then known was

[illegible] [illegible] – Kind regards to [illegible] [illegible]
Cordially ever Bebb

Lauderdale, Wis
Aug 4th /92

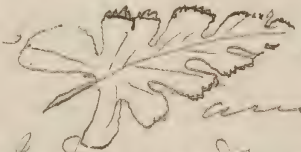
My dear Mr Deane:—

I write in reply to yours of July 23d with no other motive I fear than the, at bottom, selfish one of placing myself once more in position to look for another letter from the same hand when we take our usual evening row around to the P.O. to get our mail — We usually have an early supper — or late dinner at half past five — about six we all get into that family boat whereof I wrote so much four or five years ago — and row slowly around to the store and mill — get our mail and perhaps a few stores — let one of the boys

out "to go for milk" and then
spend the cool of the morning on
the water -

My specimens of Carex Bebbii
are good and I will send you
a supply for your duplicate herb.
But the White Water Lily was such
a miserable failure that I threw
the evidence thereof away -
I intended to show you how large
our questioned species flower grows
under favorable conditions - I
honestly do not exaggerate when
I say that the tips of the petals
would have reached across the
sheet - But alas the centres of
the flowers actually decayed
from moisture that could find
no escape. I know now how I
might have (possibly) obviated the
difficulty - but such exceptionally
large blooms are only produced
very early in the season -

My only find of what may be

a plant of interest is a Nuphar advena with pinnately-lobed leaves. All the leaves from the same root were similar so the change from the normal form was not the result of a fungus attack - as it first struck me as being. The leaves are narrower and the edges were curled up - something like this  - Did you ever see anything of the kind? - I do not recall any mention of such a sport in our common yellow pond lily - and I have rowed through acres of it here in the Lauderdale lake without ever having myself seen the like before - or indeed any approach it -

Dr Glatfelter of St Louis got an idea - a few years ago - that he and I discriminate the species of Trillium by the veining of the leaves I was glad to help him - to the extent of my ability - but have had no faith in the practicability of his scheme from the start. He has however been assiduous in his efforts - helped financially on what I think by Prof Trelease - and has certainly produced some exquisite photographs of which I inclose samples for your inspection - I understand he is to have three plates - illustrating the species of Gray Man. - in a forthcoming publication of the Shaw School of Botany.

Your escape when that ledge of rock fell was indeed a narrow one - Come out here and try to climb over the round knobs of trap left by the old Green Bay glacier and I can at least assure you that you will place yourself in no such danger -

Remember you promised to write often during your vacation

Cordially Bebb

Lauderdale Wis
Aug 11th /92

My dear Mr Deane:-

There is so much in your last letter to call forth reply I am led to talk back instanter.

Whether I will return "to Salix work" the next winter is every summer a question that grows more and more doubtful with ~~its~~ each annual recurrence. Just at present I seem to have sunk into a state of absolute apathy, at least so far as the kind of botany, represented by the Bulletin and Gazette is concerned. It is not that "the Bulletin makes me swear and the Gazette also puts me to sleep." I simply don't care - they neither of them arouse any feeling of warmth or induce a tendency to somnolence - I read the pages listlessly - read almost nothing and wonder if it is all that I am growing old - or whether I belong to a generation of botanists "fast passing away" and feel lonesome accordingly - or what is the matter - I was wont in days gone by to covet the distinction of being recognized in however obscure a way as a botanist - Has the title become cheapened or is it all in my way of looking at the matter - that somehow the Experiment Station business seems commonplace, Something must be said or done to represent claim to salary received - and in frantic efforts to make this something strikingly original - or apparently of great money value - Dollar for Dollar - what stacks of stuff is published, But enough - I promised myself when I started this last sentence that I would stop with this page -

Yes! the willow slips you sent me were growing nicely when I left home. They are the easiest things in the whole range of horticultural art to strike - Late this fall after the wood is thoroughly ripened and the leaves have fallen let your friend select vigorous shoots of the years growth - cut these into lengths of about 10 in each - plant 8 in deep - firm the earth well about the base of the cutting - He can either bury his cuttings and set next spring - or set before the ground freezes and throw some litter over the bed - I have usually planted in spring with good success and I have preferred to grow the cuttings in a nursery row the first season - selecting then the most vigorous plants - one year old - for planting out - discarding the others - Keep the soil mellow about the young trees for a year or two and then such vigorous kinds as S. fragilis will shift for themselves -

I do not see how corrosive sublimate would help in case of the very large water lilies - the difficulty is very much what it would be for you to attempt to dry out a pile of alternate layers of vegetable tissue and rubber film. Either I must dry the flower in sections - marking them so that I can again superimpose the petals ~~[illegible]~~ in proper order - or I must slip some kind of thin driers in between the petals and change them as often as I do the regular driers - or possibly the application of heat might obviate the difficulty - I when I grew up - Howells' "Boys Town" it was - were enthusiastic kite fliers - and I have been often called upon to revive some long forgotten skill in that direction to help out my boys.

Yes! we had a fine view of Mars on the evening of the 4th - It was amusing to read the Chicago daily papers of the morning of the 5th. Each and every one felt they must say something or acknowledge themselves "scooped" and the something which the average reporter evolved from his "inner consciousness" was capital summer reading, fine amusement - better than Puck or Judge or Punch - But the ~~aluminium~~ aurora of a few weeks ago - phenomenal in its splendor, we all slept through. - Our cottage is surrounded by trees and it so happened we all went to bed early. We did witness however only a few evenings since a singular phenomenon - at least it was new to me and I am nearly sixty years old. x

x a rainbow - *after sunset* - there was a brilliant red cloud

in the western horizon and the light reflected from have never tried either —

I was interested to find that the willow of that "Lone Willow spring" an object receiving frequent mention in descriptions of the desolation of Death Valley was Salix laevigata, the first w sh. tree I had the good luck to stumble upon —

If you had had that famous kite of yours here any time in the last three days you might have put it up and *left it up* — tied the string to tree and saved all hours labor in hauling it in and winding the string. It has been one steady blow — blow — blow — till I got so tired of the monotonous rattle of the leaves and beat of the waves on the shore that I was ready to accept anything the weather bureau had to offer by way of change — The boys in the town

this occurred the rainbow — almost a perfect arch — in

so brilliantly that for a few moments the sea seemingly

the east — was apprised — The color was all different from the

whole way — reds and yellows intensified — violet outline, omitted — still

Lauderdale, Wis.
Aug 24/92

Dear Mr Deane:—

We "break camp" day after tomorrow— Two days this and the next—were to have been given to packing up but it is raining a steady pour down— so while Mrs B and Mattie are carrying out their share of the programme within doors I am perforce at leisure— There will be time enough tomorrow to put up the shutters—get in the boats &c. This is the first season since we began coming here—five years ago— that we ~~have~~ will return~~ed~~ to Rockford without an excessive drought having despoiled our garden of all its beauty—

I must tell you how it was with Dr Glatfelter and I

Salix myrtilloides. He wrote me last spring that he intended to do all his work over again with better material and asked me to help him to fresh leaves of all the Willows which he himself did not find in the vicinity of St Louis – I sent him S. glaucophylla from Rockford and promised from Carbondale – as soon as I should get them S. discolor, petiolaris, cordata rostrata and myrtilloides – I then referred him to Bailey of Brown for S. tristis (good typical twigs around Providence) Bailey of Cornell for one or two other species – Faxon for the White Mt. species – Hill of Englewood for S. adenophylla &c – I was able to fulfill my promise in a very satisfactory except as regarded S. myrtilloides – this I found when I got here in the language of the Georgia sheriff endorsed on a writ which he had been unable to serve "non comatibus in swampo" in fact my locality was completely submerged - I so informed Dr G, and told him he had *better* not *depend* upon my getting the plant - A few days later while exploring another bog in search of *Epilobium molle* (I do not recall the Muhlenbergian name) I stumbled unexpectedly upon a nice lot of my *[illegible]* and sent Dr G specimens that were *en route* to St Louis within two hours from the time I had discovered the plant. I doubt not he had them in hand before his letter reached you.

Recurring to aquatics - Gray then says of the submerged leaves of Nuphar advena - "seldom present" - I wonder if it would not be a truer statement to say *seldom observed* - They are present only in the *early part* of the season and soon decay — I saw them there a few years ago beautifully developed but was not prepared at that time to preserve specimens — this summer in July, I was too late — When I had noticed them particularly the water was only about three feet deep and they formed a most beautiful flower-like rosette out of the centre of which sprang the long stems of the floating leaves.

I particularly desire a good instructive series of your Maryland Solidagos — Recently you offered to send me S. Virga aurea but I think (though cannot feel too sure) that the promise has gone the way of my own current Sagittaria Heterophylla — The plant "that T.C Porter changes the name of" I have from the locality mentioned in Gray's Manual — 'Shores of the Schuylkill' but not so far as I remember from literature -

I took all the *Epilobium molle* that I could find - about a dozen plants - Will send you some for your duplicate herbarium.

The following is written on "old John" near home which was new, a few days ago - to the campus on the shores of Lauderdale -

Nord
John
Mass.

Name and P.O. address -

Cordially as ever
Wm. G. Bell

926 Grant Ave
Rockford Ills
Oct 13th/92

Dear Mr Deane:—

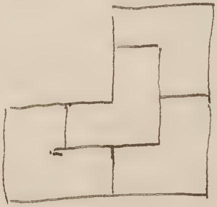
I set out about three weeks ago to make a tour of duty and pleasure visiting the families of my older children established in and about Chicago. I put in my coat pocket two unanswered letters of yours thinking I might find an opportunity to write while away. But the letters came back with me last Saturday. Chances for letter writing having proved a vain delusion. I had scarcely a moment to myself for between the neighbor schemes for my entertainment the grand children took good care to get in plenty of chinking (I'm not sure that this word is in the dictionary and may not be understood by an eastern man. In the early settlements of the west the spaces between logs in building a cabin were filled up with small blocks and mud called "chink and daubing" I almost smile at myself to think I should have used the word metaphorically in speaking of my grandchildren — it was familiar enough to me fifty years ago). Robert and Arthur took me one day down to Lake Co Indiana — an excursion to the Pine barrens and sand dunes of the South end of Lake Michigan. The flora of the region was made familiar long ago by the capital collections of my old friend Babcock ~~and~~ But the season was so late that though I went prepared to collect if anything worthy turned up I came back with an empty portfolio - But we had a splendid day in the woods - and a camp dinner - with sweet potatoes, corn &c roasted in hot sand. A few weeks before Rob had performed one collecting feat such as I never had a chance to achieve, - without moving from his tracks he gathered five species of Utricularia in bloom! Only U. cornuta was left when we visited the locality together, but this so plentiful that we gathered it by the handful to carry back to city friends.

Of course I saw the Worlds Fair buildings, and they are truly splendid - You read of their being only a framework of wood

and iron covered with staff but
you are amazed to find how
very solid and substantial they
appear! But it was a relief.
in the midst of so much architec-
tural splendor to rest the eye
upon the shores of the Wooded
Island - It must have taken
barge load after barge load of
indigenous bog to do the job
but the result is most satisfactory
. The planting is artistic - admirable -
- Asters - Coreopsis - Sedges &c making it
for all the world just such a
shore as a botanist might delight
to come upon in wild nature -

Our autumn has been a most
remarkable one - We have had
no frost at all until last Sunday
morning when there was a pretty
decided display of white - but so
hardened was all vegetation

became by the gradual reduction of temperature that even tender things like tomatoes, morning glories - Cannas &c had only the growing tips singed and today the morning glories are still blooming while the "nasturtiums" are a mass of brilliant color -



"Dont think me so brilliant as to guess it right off. I knew it before"

It was a little strange that you should meet my wifes sister at Jaffrey - but the two are as unlike - in every way - as can be - One of them striking contrasts common enough in families but about which people are forever wondering

It is very dry here - no rain for weeks - and the ground in the garden as dry and hard as a sun dried brick - As soon as there comes a good rain I shall have some gardening to do - though I detest October gardening and only do it because I know that next spring I may regret very much my negligence if the proper thing is not accomplished at the proper time - When the ground freezes up then usually comes my time for closet botany

Cordially as ever

M. S. Bebb

926 Grant Ave
Rockford Ills
Dec^r 7th/92

My dear friend Deane:—

I am to go south to the mountains of Georgia immediately after the Holidays. The trip is not at all to my liking and I feel blue over the prospect of being absent from home for months. In gathering up trifles that need attention before I go I send you in the same mail with this a few specimens of _Carex tribuloides_ var _Bebbii_ Bailey. I am ashamed to send them without roots but the circumstances under which the collection was made precluded anything more than cutting, under water and among a dense growth of other sedges. I also include another specimen of

Epilobium strictum Muhl. I wonder if I will ever see again the abundant growth of this which first attracted my attention.

Finally two small flowering specimens of Hypothyris Houghtoniana for the getting of which no great credit is due. It happened thus. Last spring I was down on my knees planting out a lot of little Geraniums when I heard a lady's voice call - "Mr Butt is your wife at home"? - She was not. "Then won't you come and take a little ride with us? The basket full of unplanted Geraniums went under a Norway Fir in the shade and when my wife came home she found one missing - Well we were driving along up the river road when all at once I espied these two little plants - I explained to my friend why I wished to stop and get them adding that though I knew of a locality where I thought I could get more I had better make sure of these. So that is the way you came to have just a beginning of a show for Synthyris in Houghtoniana. Later in the season the leaves are larger and firmer in texture, the stems lengthen to a foot or more, when in fruit, and it is possible to dry the plant so that it blackens but very little. I am still hoping to send you a good herbarium exhibit of the species in toto.

We have been having dismal weather for a month past. dull leaden skies through which the sun scarce ever breaks - an atmosphere saturated with moisture often heavy with fog and coal smoke. a slopping snow under foot which

melts into slush and stays - never
quite melting into water and
running away. It is rather unusual
for us in this region - though
last spring we had weeks and
weeks just like it - I am obliged
to acknowledge that from feeling
better and stronger last fall than
I have anytime in recent years
I am perceptibly feeling the effects
of unable to resist the depressing
influences of the weather - It
remains to be seen what effect
the change to a warmer climate
will have

Hurrah! I was reserving this
space for a graceful wind up
but the postman knocked - (this is
not a figure of speech we really have
an old fashioned knocker on our door)
and I found he had left us
1° a letter to mother from Will

2d a letter to Mattie from Art and 3d a *letter to me from you* - Isn't it a curious co-incidence that it should have come while I was writing - Do you know I almost envy you your enthusiasm. It makes me think of the days when no amateur was more industrious and persevering than I myself in accumulating botanical treasures - and it also brings home with just a touch of vain regret the fact that I have *given* up - or *given out* - *fallen behind* - *your hypothetical* or what so ever characterization the case may call for. But I like to see how *your* herbarium grows even if my own has come to a stand still. Did Eggert send you the new Parthenium? I should suppose he would and yet it would naturally be the first plant you would mention if he had done so. I lately received it from *Dr Glatfelter* and was rather surprised to find the plant apparently more unlike

P. integrifolium. in other ways than the difference of root growth - than I had expected to see in_

I have had a charming letter from Dr Robinson "sincerely hoping that the friendly relations which have existed between [myself] and the Gray Herbarium in the past may be continued under its new management" - to which I could make most hearty response! How much I would like to do - if I only could!

I taught both E. Hall and Patterson how to make specimens - about the best service I take it which I ever rendered the cause of botanical science_ I should like to tell you about Hall. He was a queer chap and no mistake!

Don't talk about not coming west next summer - Rediculous! - "Suppose that I were disappointed in your [my] old friend" - S'pose!_ I submit that such a supposition goes beyond rediculous and after trying to think of some expression to ease my mind must abandon the matter as wholly ~~beyond any~~ incapable of what one's artist friends call "satisfactory treatment"

I, guess you and Mrs Deane will do just what wife and I did at the time of the Philadelphia Centennial - - discuss and debate and decide and withdraw our decision - settle down to a firm conviction that all things considered we just couldn't and there was no use talking about the matter any further and at last - go - and be glad we did ever after! And as for the fearful possibility of shattered ideals in case you and I should meet - and not forgetting your experience with Mr — whats-his-name - of Cincinnati - Lloyd - Oh yes - not forgetting Lloyd. I still feel as though I should like above all things to put the matter to the test. I should want to forewarn you in big bold letters that your western friend was an old bronchitic - close on 60 years of age - just so that the "appearance in the form" as our spiritualist brethren put it might not be too much of a shock and after that I don't think we could soon come to be boys together. You can not imagine how queer it made me feel when some of the younger members of the botanical fraternity began to write me in a very respectful tone becoming the difference in years. Fact is I can't quite fetch the dignity of the grand Senior. Even if I were to try, I should only make a fool of myself.

Mattie is visiting an old school friend on the East side today. Will be there to dinner. But I do not need to consult her wishes before assuring you that she would be a very happy girl to have a letter from you. We are all well and still hope to see Mr & Mrs Deane next summer!

Cordially as ever

M. S. Bebb

926 Grand Ave
Rockford Ills
Decr 22d/92

My dear friend Deane:—

I inclose a trifle— just as a token of remembrance —nothing more— And I shall not even pretend to write a letter— by & by when I get shut in by a rain storm some week I will get even with you—

Wishing you and and all that are nearest and dearest to you a Merry Christmas and a Happy new year I remain as ever

fraternally yours
M L Bell

926 Grand Ave
Rockford Ills
Jany 5th/93

My dear Mr Deane:—

Mattie bade us good-bye yesterday. She would stay over last night with her sister and leave Chicago this A.M. on the "Boston Special" arriving in Albany tomorrow morning where Robert will meet her.

It is now my turn to get a trunk down from the store room and begin packing! I plan to go into Chicago sometime next week - visit a few days with the friends there and leave for the south, Monday Jan 16th at 4 P.M. arriving at Atlanta 7 P.M. the next day, via the "Evansville Route". This is the most direct route to Nashville from Chicago. Returning I hope to be able to follow Spring northward and to loiter a bit on the way revisiting my boyhood home near Cincinnati. I think I have told you that the place where I am to stay is a little town on the South-East side of the Blue Ridge about 50 miles south of the point where N. Carolina, S. Carolina and Georgia "corner" – I can tell you more about it a few weeks hence. I may be able to do a little collecting toward the close of my sojourn – and I even indulge in visions of such verdurous growths of Mosses that I may be led to revive an old time interest in these pretty little plants.

With a blizzard howling around the house this morning my wife urges me to hasten my departure for a more congenial clime – But after all it is only the long confinement within doors which has hitherto broken me down before the return of spring – Assured of a chance to escape anytime I choose I can very comfortably sit by my table in a warm room and let old Boreas rage if he will! Besides as I can not well

afford to be gone longer than
three months every week taken off of
this end and added on to the
other is a gain

I wish I had something
of botanical interest to write about
and so redeem two pages of personal-
ities but I have not mounted a
single specimen this winter - not
soaked up a single Willow capsule -
and things said by the Experiment
Station Chaps which a few years
ago might have aroused a more
or less indignant (and I may as
well add impotent) protest are
now let pass as matters of no
concern - I know it is all my own
mood and nothing more - the work
goes bravely on at the Gray Herbarium
Rand sees the way opening before
him to the completion of his Flora
of Mt Desert - the fellows that "compro-
mised" everything so beautifully, at
Rochester - surely they are happy!
so what's the use? I want to keep
"jogging away" after the old
fashioned style and one two

monthlies irritate me — one by its intense partizanship — the other by being so *wondrous wise* that I have really given up all hope of *understanding* it — I do wish we had some botanical journal a little after the scope let us say of Hardwicke's *Science Gossip* — only botanical exclusively and not designed in any way shape or manner to pose for foreign approval. Where the small fry — Coulter's "hod carriers" — could, if they wished, report some happy find and *not* be cast down by having their little note quite overshadowed by a Monograph of the Gasteromycetes of New Guinea, by Herr-Prof Hash-nicht, We have, as it seems to me, no journal which meets the wants ~~which~~ that led primarily to the *establishment* of the Gazette — No paper of "Botanical Notes" — As for the other stuff I can get all I want of it for the mere asking — or at any rate in the Proceedings of Scientific - Meetings — *where it belongs*, Cordially

Bebb

Habersham Co.

Demorest. Ga.
Jan 26th/93

Dear Mr Dean:—

I received your last kind "good bye" letter just as I was leaving Rockford — In fact I had left my own door but encountered the postman on my way to the depot. If some sort of unconscious telepathic communication was only a common experience you would have known at once my heart felt response — Unfortunately our more generous feelings are still dependent for expression on a blundering or dilatory pen. This is the first letter I have written from here except to wife and children

I left Chicago Monday evening Jan 16th — the train was due at Nashville the next morning but an engine broke down in the night near Vincennes. Ind. and we were detained there eight hours. Lost our right of way — and the eight hours behind time had become twelve by the time the train pulled into Nashville. I had purposely planned to pass over the country between Nashville and Atlanta by daylight but for reasons which I need not detail it was necessary for me to press on. so I made the trip in the night. Arrived at Atlanta the next morning and here by noon of the same day. It had snowed on us all the way up from Atlanta. the atmosphere being so thick as to shut out all distant views of scenery. I arrived here in a blinding snow-storm which continued without let up till noon Thursday. By this time the snow lay everywhere a foot deep. Cold weather preceded and followed the storm. The thermometer one morning dropping as low as -16°. The depth of the snow. the intensity of the cold and the long period over which it lasted has not been equaled in this region in the last forty years. As I heard a native remark yesterday. "It has been powerful hard on the pore" - On the other hand the sun rises as high in the heavens as it will with us in April - the days are long - the atmosphere very clear and perfectly still, so although we ~~still~~ have frosty mornings the midday temperatures seems to me, hardened by exposure to the severity of a northern climate - quite mild and enjoyable. I only wish there would come a warm rain and carry off the last vestige of the snow which still lingers in the woods and shady places.

The ~~main~~ crest of the Blue Ridge lies about 17 miles northwest of us - the highest visible peak Mt Yonah 2600 ft alt. Demorest is 1650 ft above the sea. The country in the immediate vicinity I am disappointed in - a barren, hilly region covered with second growth Oak mingled with which is occasionally about 25% of scrub Pine - All the way up from Atlanta it was the same - an area of 40 acres will rarely show a dozen old trees and these whether Oak or Pine have [illegible] their exemption from the axe is not to ~~beauty~~ any merit of beauty or utility but just the reverse. As no stumps are visible I infer that the deforestation took place before the war.

This is a queer town — northern in all its appearances — dropped down in the hills of Georgia. It is populated by cranks mostly, drawn from the cold woods of Maine — "the banana belt" of Dakota, and intervening salubrious regions. There is a poet from Nashua N. H., who has published a volume of poems (at his own expense) entitled "A Thousand Songs of Life, Love, Hope and Heaven". It lies on the parlor table below. There are not really an even 1000 of them — not more than 300 in fact. But the number is made good by a lot of aphorisms in verse. He does business in Nashua and spends his winters here. In his preface he tells his readers that he tries to carry poetry into his business and business into his poetry — or words to that effect. I can't say what effect this proceeding may have on the business end of the bargain but it is very apparent that the poetry so called has not been accomplished without a good deal of Yankee perseverance and hard work - He is one more of the Cranks of course and I know beforehand without waiting to be told. that I will be taken in as of the fraternity.

I rather scouted the idea - at first - of going into a Southern house built on Northern principles - heated throughout by furnace &c but I have found it mighty comfortable this cold spell to regulate the heat of my room by the turn of a register,

Yesterday I chanced to be looking out of my window when a splendid, great, bald-headed Eagle Came sailing by so close that I could see his eyes. His head and neck were very white - in fact every feather on him was perfect. He flew off toward the Mountains - I thought possibly such visitors were common but find to my surprise that. the bird is rarely seen in this immediate vicinity - I seem to have been specially favored.

I am sorry to hear that our good friend Rand is so afflicted! I must write to him. I would write to all my botanical friends oftener only I am conscious that I have only non-botanical personalities to communicate and these may easily be administered ad nauseam.

Mattie's address is Willsborough, Essex Co. N.Y. She will be glad I know to have a letter from "Mr Deane"

As I have not yet escaped the winter weather I tried to run away from it is too soon to look for any beneficial effect from my trip south. But I have seen more and learned more of the natives and their ways of living in one week than I expected to see and learn in a month. I shall have to tell you about them another time. My kindest regards to Mrs Deane.

Cordially
Bell

Demorest. Ga -
Feb 8th 1893

My dear Mr Deane:-

We had delightful weather here all through the fore part of last week - calm - warm - hazy just like Indian Summer - the thermometer standing at about 60° in the morning and 70° at mid-day. Friday dawned more hazy than ever - all distant views being shut off by the smokiness of the atmosphere. But about 9 o'clock a cool breeze sprang up from the west and the air cleared in a wonderfully short space of time - Clouds gathered overhead but around the horizon it was perfectly clear. At this time the mountains took on a color which I had never before seen in any landscape - a deep - intense blue varying toward purple in the valleys - and a deepening of the neutral blue tint on distant mountains so often noticed - And a clear - pronounced ultra-marine! It remained cool all day & cloudy. Saturday morning there was a white frost and Saturday night a cold rain set in which lasted all day Sunday. I have no doubt this was the extreme southern phase of the cold wave which swept over the whole of the upper Mississippi Valley the latter part of the week past. My wife writes me that the weather has been unusually severe in N. Ills. - the boys go to school on skates - pedestrians take to the middle of the street and that she herself is house-bound.

I was mainly glad to get both of your letters and only refrained from answering the first immediately in hopes that the second might follow - as it has - in a day or two -

Demorest is a new place - forced into existence by a Land Company. It is only 3 or 4 years old - The project was to repeat in the south - the experiment so successfully made by Mr Landis at Vineland N. J. of building up a prohibition town. Just at present the place has sunk into a comatose state and anybody who could tell for sure whether death or resuscitation was going to ensue would relieve the anxious minds of a good many settlers and of the Land Company as well ~~itself~~! The climate is no doubt a fine one for all year round residence - Clarkesville - situated only 5 miles distant was a noted summer resort for southerners - before the war. Toombs Stevenson & others had residences there and I am told the court house was built in 1832 - the year before I was born - I was misinformed as to the height of Mt Yonah - the most conspicuous peak of the Blue Ridge. I should have written 3400 ft alt (not 2600 ft) nor was I correct in saying that this is the highest peak visible from this point Mt Tray - more distant and apparently of rises in height is 440 ft abv.—

The native "Cracker" is a study—Let me give him credit for one very agreeable trait. He is invariably polite— and his boys always lift their caps to any lady they meet with a grace born of familiar usage which is very engaging. As far as I can see there is none of that sulky—sullen wrathful resentment felt toward those occupying a different station in life of which one sees so much in the low-down laborer of the north— The cracker does not congregate with his brethren in the outskirts of a city and nurse his wrongs by listening to socialistic (so called) harangues— On the contrary he builds his shanty way off in the woods and he & his family live by themselves— He is wretchedly fed— poor as poverty— lazy but proud as a lord of his position as a citizen— His wife is the most woe-dejected— cadaverous creature imaginable— She chews tobacco and spits with the accurate aim of a barroom tongue. If ever the mountain women of Ga indulged in any such weak femininity as a "snuff stick" they have long ago discarded it for the more manly habit of taking a Chaw from the plug. She is never without a babe in arms and carries it through the principal street of the town making such an absolutely unconscious display of what Macaulay calls the "maternal fount" that the on-looker holds his way, ashamed of his conventional ideas of propriety. She is innocent. What are you thinking about! One problem I can not solve and I have asked intelligent persons who have lived here for years and they too are just as much in the dark as the last new comer from the north. How is it that along with what is plainly the ground work of the character of the cracker there co-exists that latent ferocity as so often displayed in "lynching niggers" It is a survival from the old slavery days of course - but why does it survive? Is it it that sneaking vengeance and curiosity, to behold, if not to participate in cruelty is always the mark of the *weak savage* and that fellow feeling - sympathy - a sense of common humanity is the last outgrowth of civilization? — Perhaps if the cracker was a little more sensitive to his degradation the problem of "elevating the poor whites of the South" would be simplified - It is simply amazing to me that any northerner of average intelligence should come into one of the old slave states to invest his all and make a permanent home - The moral filth in which whites and blacks wallowed alike for two hundred years has left behind a miasma which will not be lifted in years to come

It is the irony of fate - but do what you will these people - whites and blacks together - must work out their own salvation - Draw a cordon of freedom and decency around them and let them do it.

Lots of turkey buzzards but no more eagles. If I hadn't seen this fellow's splendid plumage I would begin to feel that I had taken my first buzzard - for the bird of freedom!

Don't expect any sympathy from me! Patterson doubtless got it as I used to 30 years ago - No such plants now growing about Rockford -

I have found a *patch* of Galax about a mile distant and the next time I visit the locality, I will gather some of the fresh leaves (which persist over the winter) and send to you - Set in a cool place in water, they will keep fresh for a long time - To my surprise they

is very little green herbage to be
seen here at this season - less than
at the north - no grass - and the
only perennial in open places
- along foot paths &c with a few
leaves lasting over - is a small
variety of *Potentilla Canadensis* -

I have already used up all the
paper I brought with me - This is
a *Demorest's* purchase - With Mother
at Hillsborough, N.Y. Will in Minnesota
three children in Chicago - and the
home folks I have been writing
Bible letters instead of Journals.
By the way Mother asks "What has
become of Mr Deane?" She is
waiting for that promised letter.

Well here's the end of 4 big pages
and not much said either - .
Please accept quantity in lieu of
quality -

Kindest regards to Mrs Deane -
How I wish I may some day
see you both! Yours cordially
Bess

Demorest Ga
Feb 14th/93

My dear Mr Deane:-

Your Willow specm is so fragmentary and mixed as to be of almost no value. If all the leaves are from the same plant - which I doubt - we have one of those intermediate forms not uncommon in New England - but the tuft of *young leaves* seems near *discolor* while the detached (older) leaf is more like *humilis* - The fertile aments accompanying are either *S. sericea* or possibly *S. petiolaris*. (the two not clearly distinguishable at this early stage of growth) So far from the leaves "*becoming* glabrous" - you will see by the fragments returned ~~that~~ it is the younger leaves which are only thinly overspread with hairs while the older leaf is quite pubescent beneath – Your correspondent probably relied upon a memorandum as to locality &c. – There is no safe way for the novice but to use tags. – I could tell in this connection a funny story – about a mistake made by our usually so very careful friend Prof L. F. Ward. – He sent me specimens mixed of S. longifolia & S. nigra – mixed leaves and mixed flowers – I called his attention to the fact and he replied that he did not see how there could possibly be any mistake – the bush grew by itself – in a locality easily remembered and he was quite sure that fls & fol were from the same bush – I returned to him specimens of each species – the identity of which he recognized – but still protested that how the mixture came about was more a mystery to him than it was to me – I had forgotten all about the matter when the next spring I received a humorous letter glorifying the acumen of the closet botanist and expressing the abject humiliation of the local observer – He had found his one bush to consist of two – with branches ~~intricately~~ growing in intricate confusion –

I sent you yesterday a little box containing leaves of Galax – I am told that if placed in water and set in a cool place they will keep fresh for many days – I hope they may reach you in good condition – but have my misgivings about that –

Yours cordially

Bebb

Demorest. Ga
Tuesday, Feb 21st/93

My dear Mr Deane:—

Yesterday was delightful, warm without being sultry—the air calm, clear and invigorating—To day is chilly. wind in the east—sky overcast with leaden clouds—Yesterday I was out in the open all day long—to day I am shut in and writing letters—and so I answer one of your questions as to how I spend my time—just as it happens. My wife has very decided objections to my packing either books or botanical work in my trunk—so my resource is Nature in all her phases that I have capacity or culture to appreciate first and foremost—and fill in dull days as best I can. Glad you enjoyed the Galax leaves—that they went through fresh. Quite a number of perennials are beginning to show their root leaves. I will not stay long enough to see the flowers but I amuse myself guessing what they may be. One very distinctly marked variety of Senecio aureus is coming on so rapidly I may get the flowers - I send Lloyd's card on to Mrs Britt. I know she will appreciate it -

By referring to the Century Dictionary you would - I imagine - get more reliable information about the word "cracker" than I can give you - It is a familiar word to me - and has been for years - I think it was first applied to the poor white mountaineers of Georgia - but afterwards generically to the same class all over the region they inhabit - I would not call the miserable street loafer who hangs about town - above doing any work himself but perfectly willing that his drudge of a wife should pay his tobacco bills out of her hard earnings at the washtub a "cracker" - We have fellows of that same sort at the north. The cracker lives way back in the woods - He stays at home I think most of the time - When he does go to town he drives a little pair of oxen before a light rudely constructed wagon in which he loads his wife and children -

they have almost no money, whatever. If Madame wishes to buy a yard of Calico she goes to town with a live chicken - or some eggs tied up in a handkerchief - and expects to barter - My landlady tells me that they live in winter time almost exclusively on a warm corn bread "dodger" and greens over which they "pour pork fat" - to my poor woman's horror. But it is easy to see that this supplies hydro-carbons to a diet from which fresh meat is excluded. For all its present rudeness this is an old settled region and Cardamine officinalis has been widely spread in the mountain spring-fed brooks and is tender and succulent all through the mild winter

You may well say "what a change in our home in Rockford just at present" - and pater familias who has to hold down this end of the triangle which separates us "all by his lonesome" has on some accounts a hard time of it - Only my wife - Walter & Frank at home - though Arthur was out from Chicago Lincolns birthday and Will was expecting to "see his ma!" on the 22d. Unless spring is unusually delayed I will return about April 1st. I shall want to look after my garden by that time.

We have on the whole a rather pleasant "family" of boarders here at Mrs Brattles. But dear me - from the ground up their estimates of life and its purpose - of conduct - everything - is so widely different from my own were I to begin dissenting there would be no place to stop. As I pass amongst them I fancy for a rather taciturn old gentleman of no very pronounced opinions of his own - who goes off into the woods instead of going down town to "get acquainted with folks" and who kindly but resolutely declines to be entertained by pert little misses in short dresses "speaking pieces".

The post office keeps me in touch with the old life and glad enough will I be when the time comes to turn my face northward.

Cordially

Bebb

Demorest. Ga
March 3/93

My dear Mr Deane:—

Your connection with notable families in and about Boston which is revealed incidentally now and then in your letters reads like one of Hales stories. And by the way this reminds me that my wife came across a short story of Hales in an old Atlantic — possibly last summer in which he remarks concerning some historical matter — "it is so because Deane says so." How differently freighted the few words are to us now from what they probably were when we first read them — How very gratifying it must be to you — what honest pride you must feel in the conscious recognition of your relationship to those whose names are associated for generation after generation in wise efforts to make the world in which we live better.

Did I write you – (I write so many different things to so many different persons I never can remember even for a day which has gone to which) that *Chrysogonum Virginianum* was the first herbaceous plant observed in flower. It struck me as a little singular that the earliest harbinger of Spring should be one of the Compositae – so intimately associated in the prairies with the flora of mid summer and autumn.

Dr Coulter has been called to the Presidency of Lake Forest University near Chicago – I fancy his energies henceforth will be more and more directed to educational work – with a corresponding decrease of interest in botany – Still I don't care so much as I would have done a few years ago – when I looked upon Dr Coulter as a possible first class systematist – He has done fairly well as a *compiler*, but, his original work – that which is really and truly his own and not the appropriated product of a subordinate's effort – has never struck me as more than common-place. Finally his address before section F. convinced me that he had not the *spirit* – let alone the ability – of a Dr Gray – But he is a fellow of acknowledged ~~[illegible]~~ character – is ambitious – and I apprehend will find henceforth in educational fields a wider *opening*

I have dropt the *Gazette* this year – Its average tone was to me not helpful – on the contrary distinctively depressing – and my idea of use for such a journal is to find in its monthly visits something of the inspiration which you Cambridge fellows get in *reverberation*. – the lively rebound of conversation –

mutual appreciation of each others work –

Mattie was much pleased with the letter you wrote her – She is a dear, good girl – one of the most affectionate – helpful daughters that ever made glad the heart of a father

Winter has held on so steadily I am in hopes that when spring does come it will come to stay – and if so I want to be home by April 1st. Perhaps prolonging my stay for two weeks more would be wise. But I intend to go back four weeks from now in such good trim that I will not mind being confined to the house for a few days when the weather is bad – and if it should be good there is lots & lots of garden work to be done.

Cordially

Bebb

Demorest, Ga
Wednesday March 15th/93

My dear Mr Deane –

Monday in company with two of my fellow boarders. Mr Hastings an affable old gentleman of about 75 years and his granddaughter a quiet young lady of about Mattie's age – I visited the neighboring town of Clarksville. We rode over on the noon train and walked back. From the station where we got off up to the town was about a mile which we all decidedly preferred to walk. In fact we began to find ourselves in the more densely populated portion before we had seen any place where we could get a drink and eat our dinner which we had brought with us. Just at this juncture however we came upon a big hotel for summer boarders – quite deserted – so we filled our mugs at the well and ate our lunch on the broad piazza in front with all the nonchalance of genuine southerners. Then we went on our way down the main street. for it is what we call out west a "string town" built all on one street. At the head of this street on an eminence and fronting the approach stands the old Court House built in 1832 _ the oddest structure you can imagine - Around it fairly swarmed a throng of "natives" and negroes - about half & half - and roughly segregated, - not intermingling freely. In northern Georgia the sessions of the County Court are the occasion for as general a flocking to town as is with us in So. Ills the County fair - The citizen takes a lively interest in the administration of the law and I am told he is better versed in its technicalities than his fellow of equivalent standing and intelligence at the north - It is a queer old town - all falling to pieces - has been hit hard, twice. To begin with it was a famous resort for

Southerners before the war - who came here not so much for the mere pleasure of living in a more congenial climate from June till frost, but because this whole region is entirely exempt from intermittent and remittent fevers - and a safe retreat was found from the malarial - lowland - cotton growing districts - There are four large hotels in the place (closed at this season of course) and I don't know how many small boarding houses - perhaps a dozen - Now to begin with the war impoverished the former patrons and the rich southerner of the present day - under changed conditions - abolition of slavery &c finds it more to his liking to go north - This alone would have killed the place but a second bit of misfortune has "killed it deader" - It was in the old days "befo' the war" the best point that could be comfortably reached by horse and carriage - With the building of the Blue Ridge and Atlantic R. R. easy access was had to a much higher and every way more attractive point namely Talula Falls and thither went the remnants of the former frequenters of Clarksville's hotels. To day the town is literally deserted. By a piece of good luck we had an opportunity of looking all through and around an old plantation house the finest (with one exception) of all the old homes in the town. Adjoining this place was the former residence of Toombs (he you will remember thus boasted he would some day "call the roll of his slaves at the foot of Bunker Hill monument"). We walked through the old garden but did not enter the house as it is now owned and occupied by a Judge Somebody. But the old gardens. How I would have enjoyed tarrying longer in their neglected paths. Daffodils in great bunches here, there, everywhere, looking as if they had shifted for themselves the last 50 years. Pyrus Japonica not at all pretty with a mass of accumulated old wood crowding the more recent growths - But Oh the Box hedges! - No neglect can impair the neat, trim character of this beautiful shrub. How I wish I could grow it in Rockford! A bed of blue Roman Hyacinths growing in the open border was a surprise to me. But all over everywhere - over the walks - under and along the broken down fences - covering the borders that once were - a dense soft intricate mat of Japanese honeysuckle and Vinca mixed. No grass anywhere - no lawn - Clearly the gardeners there must work for their grass as we north work for our roses. The characteristic ~~southern~~ door yard is one that can be kept clean with a broom!

Well all told we had seven miles of continuous (or almost continuous) walking so you see there is *some go*, left in me yet - As all our friends had predicted that we would stay and come home on this evening, Francis our arrival at a little past four was greeted with exclamations of genuine surprise. Now said Mr H. as we neared the house "it wont do for us to come straggling in — Even if we feel as tired and jaded as a lot of old stage horses lets come up to the platform with a flourish" and we did. Though for a fact I was not nearly so tired as I had expected I would be —

I have decided to go home the second week in March so do not mail any letter to Demorest after Friday March 9 — as many as you please before that date — No May flowers yet or I would have sent you some —

I had forgotten about the early blooming of Antennaria plantaginifolia — Then there are the Dandelions too! The definitions are very amusing — thanks for letting me share "the fun — that last about the "cotyledons" is too funny for any use"

I have sat here at my table this evening and scribbled away at you about a place you never heard of before and in which you may not find the least interest — simply

because it is uppermost in my own mind, —
I hope you have not been bored to death — Cordially Beth

Demorest Ga
March 23/93

Dear Mr Deane

So our dear old friend Vasey has passed over to the silent majority. He was *my first* botanical friend and correspondent. How well I recall *the first package of plants I ever received*, and they came from his hand. Grasses, sedges and Junci specimens good, bad and indifferent. And oh how helpful they were and what unmeasured possibilities of further accessions they opened up to my youthful spirit. How much I learned from them! How rich I was! I spread them

all out over the furniture -
- over the piano, - over the
floor and chairs to look at
them - and it was Sunday
at that! - Ah me - since
then I have had boxes
to unpack containing ~~as~~
~~one~~ ~~just~~ as one single
acquisition to my herbarium
3000 specimens not a single one
of which merited condemnation
on the score of careless collecting
but I never was quite so
set up as by this old
time sending of Dr Vasey's -
. We dropped apart in later
years and I scarcely received
a letter from him once
in three years - Having
said thus much in
a spirit of friendship
. Candor compels me to add

Thus Dr. Gray, in my opinion was an inferior botanist intellectually. His almost entire reputation rests on skill in wire pulling, a certain lack of manliness where manliness stood in the way of personal advancement and an appropriation especially of the good work done by subordinates which he got himself into a prominent position and held himself there, acquiring a degree of notoriety for any foundation for which in actual personal performance you may seek in vain. A very small man - small in stature and small in intellect - who yet managed to climb up. Who occupie in fact the very position which more than all else has given him reputation under conditions that more than one botanist at the time felt in honor bound to regard as such that a refusal when tender was made by the Department was the only manly alternative – And this went so far that Thurber had a stinging rebuke to the then Secretary of Agriculture in the paper he was then editing, entitled "Wanted – a botanist!" But perhaps you remember all about it – or was it before your day this, the dismissal of Dr Parry kicked up such a rumpus – and your to pay you the opportunity he was wont to delight in - to annihilate a dummy and perhaps an disputant by keen strokes of sarcasm - But enough of this!

How I wish you could have been with me to see Talullah Falls. The view far surpassed my most extravagant expectations - A river flowing in a series of falls and cascades ranging in height from a few feet to 85 and 91 feet each - all down in the bottom of a chasm 800 to 1200 feet deep! As you look down over a sheer perpendicular wall of granite 800 ft on the river below -

The water is a lovely sea green color except where it is broken into white spray in tumbling over rocks. — The chasm is not strictly a cañon worn out by the river itself. But is, I should say, partly this and partly a gigantic rift in the rocks. I went down to the foot of Tempesta Falls a sheer leap of 85 feet — a grand spot — and afterwards climbed back, with a guide up the cliff 800 feet — Pretty good for me! but I feel today like an old cart horse turned loose to rest after a hard days work

Warmest regards to Mrs Dean Bet a cookie I can beat her in a straight walk — down hill —

[illegible] Cordially J. Bell

Rockford Ills
April 11th/93

My dear Mr Deane:—

I got home just in the nick of time! No need of staying down in Georgia with such weather prevailing in Northern Illinois as we have had since April 1st! And my! but hasn't garden work kept me on the jump—with a list in my pocket of things that _must_ be done _without delay_ and a longer list of things that could wait for a day or two— I have stayed out every evening, till I had to quit on account of not being able to see—and this brought me close on to my bed time - namely 8. o-clock - Too tired to write letters though I read with pleasure letters written by others and thought of things to say in reply which only the lack of *vis vitae* kept from being put on paper -

I appreciated both the Demorest farewell and the home greeting - - the former timed to reach me only a few hours before my departure. the latter handed me by my wife - my first letter here - and your last dated April 7th suggests much to write in reply when I feel less hurried. I do want to tell you more about Talullah Falls - Why! if that grand spot were in the Northern states it would have been known the world over. It is not the "high falls" for *Tempestia* the highest of the series is only 85 ft. but it is the *deep chasm in which the falls and rapids are set*. There is a tower. 5 stories high at the foot of Tempestia to give a start in the climb up where the face of the cliff affords no safe footing. Now dont try to imagine it. but *do just what I tell you*. Take a card or letter envelope and against some chair or door jamb let this card measure from the floor the fifty feet of the tower. The cliff rises 750 above still. That is 15 times the width of your measure. Tempestia will be once and a half the width. Now from the first measure to represent the height of the Tower go on up 15 times more, and you will get some realizing sense of the relative depth of the chasm to what is in reality a very grand water fall. even taken by itself– Tallulah River is one of the head waters of the Savannah–

When I am less busied I will try to recall the circumstances attending Dr Parry's dismissal from the Agricultural Div of the Patent Office – though the story will lose all its point if I can not send the correspondence, between Dr Parry and the then Commissioner– Unfortunately I have forgotten in just what periodical the correspondence was published– This is only an apology for a letter– sometime I may make amends for present delinquencies– and at any rate I thank my stars for at least one correspondent who does not hold me to a strict account– Cordially J Lett

Lauderdale Lake
Sunday Morning
July 16th/93

My dear friend Deane

I admit it all. I admit it all! I feel as Darwin did when his attention was called to the number of capital I's in the first paragraph of the Origin of Species "I acknowledge the damnable fact"! But like every other delinquent I soothe my perturbed conscience by promising to do better—aye to make amends and therefore be it known. That in my present, earnestly entertained purpose this letter is but the precursor of others to follow till I shall have done works meet for repentance— It has taken an effort to begin. I had to get my old stylograph pen and wash it all out, refill it with fresh ink and bump it on the table a dozen times to make it give down. Then I had to hunt up paper and envelopes and what not. But I am all ready now — *and going* as you see. There have been times, in years gone by, when I have felt that my friends might have had occasion to suspect a more or less violent seizure of *cacoethes scribendi* — to which I am liable. But there seems no immediate danger of relapse just at present.

For a few days just before we left Rockford I was not at all well — had rather overworked in some directions (incredible as this statement may appear) and it was decreed that when we got up *to* the lakes I was to give up everything, *absolutely* — and try the "rest cure" for a week. The "treatment" was not hard to take and seems to have been efficacious. The week is up tomorrow — but instead of claiming days of grace — I am quite ready to anticipate full cure by twenty four hours — and I had fully promised myself that the very first thing I did would me to write a letter to you - or rather to write the introduction - as it were - to a series

There are 9 new cottages - building or already occupied around one end of the lake - this summer - but the "Rockford Camp" is just as quiet and secluded as ever - if not more so - for Mr Wheeler the present owner of the hotel has given the campers very distinctly to understand that they can not come into the grove - hitch their horses to the trees and then go prowling about ad libitum over other peoples premises - which is a great relief to us -

Mattie had a letter from you yesterday with which she is greatly pleased - so am I too in fact - like hearing from you directly when I didn't know any such pleasure -

I am so glad to know that you are coming to the Fair in September - Of course you will tire yourself out in about three days - everybody does that at first.

and will need a rest. It is only 2½ hours out to ([illegible]) - and a convenient train out in the evening - so you will come out and rest up with us and then go back again when you feel like going - What a pleasure! I can scarcely realize that it is written [illegible] - so very near at home!! I wish you could [illegible] the [illegible] the [illegible] as you [illegible] [illegible] - but at anyrate [illegible] [illegible] up in the cordiality of the welcome [illegible] the [illegible] one. The stairway "will seem mighty easy" [illegible] ! only a few steps - Sorry that it seems to be arranged that you are to come alone - Must take that subject for consideration in some future letter - Well! I must not write myself all out at the start - This will show that I am a little awkward at the business just now - but it will serve its purpose if it conveys the assurance of the continued love and esteem of your old

[illegible]

Lauderdale, Wis
July 20th/93

My dear friend Deane:—

Like the illustrious "Macawber" "once more I stand erect before my fellow man!" There is not an unanswered letter left in my portfolio barring three writ by one Walter Deane – and these I will now read over again pen in hand.

We all enjoyed immensely the reminiscences of your early life – written on the approach of your 45th birth day. As we grow older such recollections acquire a rare charm, I think I have explained to you how I was fascinated by Howells Boys Town – because I happened to be one of the "other boys" who inhabited the town at the same time. And Hales account of boy-life in Boston fifty years ago I found scarcely less interesting, and your story fits in with this as it were only ~~long~~ belonging to a later date. ~~But~~ Why did you — as if an adept in story telling for a periodical break off right on the most interesting point. How did you "meet your wife"? — You must have known — now that it is vacation and your herbarium enriched with pretty much everything growing along the "Concord river excepting" young Pontederias" to tell us all about it!

Your account of the Harvard Herb interested me. I've seen just such! In speaking of the Boott coll. of Carices do you refer to the Francis Boott coll. I thought this was dispersed of years and years ago. In fact my Carex cephaloidea Dew. with Dewey's autograph label and locality given "Rocky Mtns" is from Boott's Herb. I wrote to Bailey about it but he never gave me any answer of any kind. The plant is — of course — both in geographical position and technical character — = C. gravida Bailey. And speaking of Carices I'm not going to say a word to disturb your comfortable belief that you have the finest collection of the Manual species in the country, - I don't doubt but that you have - but I do believe that *yours humbly* has gathered in their native haunts more of the Manual species than any botanist now living - this is a matter of fortune rather than sagacity and industry - At the very beginning of my career as an insane collector I had my attention turned to the Carices by Sartwell & Vasey - For ten years I explored a very rich locality in N. Ills - then for several years my home was in Southern Illinois - then for eight years in Washington with the summers spent in Massachusetts - in all which time I was an enthusiastic Caricomaniac - - Do you observe that I took practically the 4 corners of the old Manual district and so far as Carices are concerned made a clean sweep - excepting the few alpines - and a *few* species of very local distribution

Now here comes a batch of questions - designed I fancy to give a sluggish intellect a *boost* and set it going on a letter - The "household" - Well we have had Will with us for a week and gathering six at the family board it has seemed *almost* like old times - - He left us yesterday - He is editing a country paper in Minnesota, and has a good business - job work included - but is sorely tried just at present on account of the difficulty of making collections, Mrs B and Mattie are both in very good health and spirits . so that the male portion of the camp feel some degree of relief least we might be putting too much on the shoulders of our housekeepers - or letting them *taste* too much - which amounts to the same thing! - David our factotum here - remarked one day when he was helping us fill the ice box - "you folks have too much *diet*" - The "garden" was in "apple pie order" when I left - goodness knows how it may look by this time - I engaged a man to mow the lawn but would sooner risk "letting alone" than have a wild Irishman turned loose in the borders without supervision - Walter is going down to Rockford to see to things next week - My "health" well that is hard to tell - I eat well & sleep well and so according to the dicta of old hard headed doctors there ought to be nothing the matter with me - but that confounded bronchitis bothers my talking more than it used to - Just think - if you should come to visit me - and I not be able to talk!!

For fear something might get away I'll close with an omnibus clause "all other interesting facts" -

Mr Hollenbeck. our neighbor. caught last evening a Pike weighing 18lbs - that is just at present the most exciting event that has "transpired" in camp - Our little Frank however caught yesterday a fish weighing 8lbs and landed it himself - and his exultation

over the event was quite equal
to that of Mr H. with his 18 pounder.
I wish I could divide with you a
large bunch of Turks Cap Lilies
which stand on the table before me—
—a whole armful— Walter and Mattie
brought them in from the big marsh—
They reminded me of the profusion of
bloom we used to see on the prairies
everywhere thirty years ago—

I have a nephew in Chicago—
a fine young fellow— carefully
nurtured by a sensible mother—
—a perfect gentleman— who intends
to go to Harvard a year from
now— I have thought that in many
ways your advice might be of
great help to him. He is not the
kind of boy at all who would make
himself intrusive— May I give
him a letter of introduction to
you?— when he goes—

Here I am at the bottom of my
sixth page and not a word about
your coming to the Fair in Sept.
This will give me a text for
No 3— Cordially— as ever J Lett

Lauderdale Wis
Aug 18/93

My dear Deane -

For my own use I despise note paper. I no more than get fairly started away from one margin before I run up against the other and what with spacing my words and keeping a check both at that I don't run off altogether I really have no mind left for any thing else - The present therefore is no attempt

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Fair day after day: with great satisfaction to myself - and the amusement of the chair pushers no doubt but what of that for a few days in a life time. In any day that I spend at the Fair hereafter I do not propose to walk "three miles" - nor anything approaching that distance; It is not the walking that tires people anyway. I am satisfied of that - It is the tremendous mental effort - taking in in any way, except in a manner to answer your splendid letter of the 6th inst only as to one brief paragraph, I beg of you not to look upon your visit to Chicago as "Distasteful"— *You must not waver,* You can *not afford* to let the opportunity go by unimproved— I fear this along with a great many other nice sensitive people of New England you are permitting a feeling of upsetting the control your judgment. If difficulties stand in the way brush them aside— pull the whole miserable business down on your head— *see the Worlds Fair— and Clean away the debris afterward*— And bring Mrs Deane with you. I know of one lady living in Buffalo so much of an invalid that she had to be carried everywhere who yet visited the

can show you some
interesting Williams-

We have all enjoyed
our outing this
summer and are more
than ever satisfied that
Lauderdale Lake is
just the place for us.
Geneva is ~~just~~ a
re-hash of Chicago-
Delavan is crowded-
lacks retirement and
offers no inducements
except to "society people".
Lauderdale is quiet,
restful - picturesque - and
yet we are within easy
reach of supplies.

Cordially as ever
Bell.

---

by the more intellectual
experiments that are in
widening my experience and
must be spread over
years. Come - both
of you - and do your
debating whether it
was a wise move
or not after you
get back to Boston.

Our own plans have
as yet taken no
very definite shape
We will probably "break
camp" Aug 30th. There
is talk of my taking
Frank into Chicago
for the week following

Sept 4th - so that he
may see more of
the Fair and return
to Rockford in time
for the opening of
School - Sept 11th
After that the rest of
us can come and
go as appears at
the time most
convenient,

I shall be disappointed
if we do not have
you both "all to our
own selves" for a few
days. Albert and
I have little to offer
but a most cordial
welcome - You will
find us living in
a very modest - economical
sort of way.
and may take our
domestic establishment,
if you will, as a
survival of the
simplicity of western
life "befo' the war"
My heirloom too - like
its owner - has not been
kept up - and is a
good deal faded - as
as old things are
apt to be - though I

6627 Harvard St
Englewood, Ills.
Sept 5th/93

Dear Mr Deane

Had I written to you at all in the last week or ten days I would probably have written a letter every day and each one would have cancelled all plans - appointments and expectations set forth in the previous twenty four hours. Even up to the very day before I left Rockford I would have said that I would not be in Chicago during the month of September yet here I am - the stay

place - but I am writing in the midst of a din and my mind is a good deal confused -

Hoping soon to have the pleasure of shaking hands and thus in encountering your old western correspondent you may not have a recurrence of the set form that Mr Lloyd gave you I remain

Cordially yours

through this week anyway
and possibly much longer.
I have not time for
explanations - but to
facilitate our meeting
I venture to make the
following appointment
in hopes this it may not
interfere with your plans -

I will be around the
big tree in the Government
building Thursday of this
week at 11 o'clock A.M. & 12 M.
If I fail to meet you within
a few minutes of the
appointed time I will ~~meet~~ be
there again at 12 M. Friday
This last alternative to
guard against the possibility
of this letter failing to
reach your hands in
time Thursday morning -
Finally if all these
plans miscarry I will
try to call upon you at
the residence of your
friend on Dearborn St.
Monday ~~Saturday~~ evening of next week at 8. P.M.
I have a sister living not
far away and I will
want to see her and so
will not find it at all
inconvenient to hunt you
up. I hope this is enough
to insure our meeting
somehow - and that I
have not left anything
doubtful in attempting to

926 Grand Ave
Rockford Ills
Sep^r 16th/93

My dear friend Deane -

Too bad - too bad! sick and away from home - not able to see the Fair after all - Our hopes of having you here with us for a few days and our disappointment that you can not come though meaning much to us. I have sense and sympathy enough I trust to sink to their proper degree of consideration in comparison with all the rest which you had counted upon and found yourself compelled to forego - If I had only known! I spent Sunday night at my sisters - Mrs John P. Reynolds - within three blocks of where you were - I thought - as it was - of calling but deemed it more than likely that if I did so I would intrude upon some family gathering - And to think of my dragging you along the weary length of all that row of pictures of old locomotives which mean nothing if you could not go back later and see the locomotives themselves -

I only hope - as so often is the case in the ordinary affairs of life - that out of commonplace events and commonplace talk there may nevertheless, have risen ~~rise~~ up a grateful atmosphere of friendship and fellow-feeling.

I met Wheeler afterwards in the Michigan Educational Exhibit and he spoke very warmly of you and was hoping to be able to meet you.

Mattie came in Sunday - as was expected but we only had Monday & Tuesday following at the Fair together. Then we received a telegram that Nina was home for a few days visit and thus our plans went by the board too for we came out to Rockford and left the Fair for a later day.

I would fain hope ~~that~~ long ere this letter reaches your hands you will have taken a turn for the better and by availing yourself of the services of a chair pusher have seen the Fair after all. Let me have a card from you soon

But after all it is too bad that coming so near I did not ~~after~~ have the pleasure of entertaining you in my own home.

I was careless enough to come away and leave my stylograph at my own house -

I am almost used up myself. And ever fraternally
Yours M.H.B. -

926 Grand Ave
Rockford Ills
Nov 3d/93

My dear friend Deane:—

I am in no mood to write excuses and you wouldn't care a rap for them anyway. Let me assure you I could elaborate a formidable array if I were to set about it — So please be magnanimous and consider me excused.

I read your letter aloud and there was a family expression of sympathy with you in your most trying experience. I am glad that with all you saw so much of the Fair but the feeling of regret that we did not have you here for a few days only deepens with time. It was very selfish. I felt that all along. for we had little to offer but a most hearty welcome. and there was so much to drive every one to sacrifice every other consideration to the one purpose of seeing as much as possible of the Fair while it lasted. For ~~we~~ we all felt at bottom that it was only a fleeting *illusion*. A *monument* of lath and plaster erected to the honor of Columbus was only a little more realistic than one of painted canvas seen on the stage! But to think of your having been so near. and the fates against us so that we could not quite pull you out the rest of the way! Come to Chicago some time when there is no Fair and I shall have no scruples. Not wild just lazy violent hands upon you and compel a stay for longer or shorter at the home of the Bebbs.

My plans for the winter are a good deal unsettled - It has been two years since I have mounted any material for the herbarium and there has been quite a little accumulation *ad interim* - especially of Salices - This "dead work" may stir up the old spirit of winter study - Besides I have half a dozen or more collections submitted for determination from all over the country and these I intend to dispose of next week - One each from Newfoundland - Ohio - Minnesota - Montana - Washington . Lower California. so I am likely to have my old pets kept in mind - being driven as it were - out of a sense of obligation to others - to refresh my knowledge if it grows rusty - To the list I may add one which Bailey intends - the [illegible] of Cultivated Plants -

Apropos of Bailey - what a drop in the character of "American Gardening"! I have only received a single "sample copy" under the new management - and I am not sorry that my subscription expired in September, - Glad that Bailey is out of it for he is working too hard - Even now he has too many irons in the fire and would probably serve the world to better advantage if he meditated less and husbanded his strength for a longer period of service -

Cordially

M. S. Bebb

926 Grant Ave
Rockford Ills
Nov 23d/93

My dear Mr Deane :—

I send you by mail some fragments - "breeches pocket specimens" as Dr Torrey used to call them - of a Crucifer found by my son Robert near a Grain Elevator in Chicago last summer - probably an importation from the west. Can you tell me what it is? I felt quite smart when I first tackled it and was going to trace it home to its lair in an easy off hand manner as much as to say that if I had been pottering over Willows only for ever so long I had nt quite lost the run of general botany - But I did nt get a name for the thing after all - The material I send may be insufficient - no ripe seeds - in which case do not bother over it.

I have been working up a collection of Willows, this morning, made by Mr Rose in the Yellowstone National Park last summer – It brings a smile to my face to think how familiar I am, comparatively, with the Willows of all North America and how ignorant I am outside of that little field?

What do you think of the proposed Systematic Botany of North America by Britton – Greene – Coulter. Underwood and so on?

We are having snug ~~[illegible]~~ winter weather for Thanksgiving – Thermometer this morning – 0 – ground all covered with snow – Have scarcely stuck my nose out of doors in three days – That's why I am dabbling in botany. –

Some family talk about sending me south again this winter – but I shall wait and see how I stand the climate here before I pack out – give up beat – and run away from home – from wife children – friends. Herbarium – everything [illegible]

Cordially Bebb

926 Grant Ave
Rockford Ills
Dec. '93

My dear Mr Doane:-

I have been trying to think of something I could do for you this Christmas "my own work" as Mattie makes doilies for her friends — "fancy work" as it were, and it occurred to me that I would send you a sketch of *Salix Arctica* - Pallas concerning which you once helped me so efficiently to collect data for a *Willow Note*. The sketch is copied from a tracing in my herbarium of a specimen in Herb. A. Gray. I do not know what you can do with it when you get it - unless you fixed it up *and* use it as an "illustration" pertaining to the "Note" aforesaid -

Of late years I have made a good many such outline sketches or tracings and only regret that I did not begin to do so sooner. When a rare herbarium specimen happens to be in my possession for a brief space of time, then to be returned to the owner. ~~when~~ I make it henceforth permanently my own - for all practical purposes - in this way. When the time comes to give it a careful examination I first of all put the sheet up to the window and trace or copy everything - outlines of the plant itself - every word and scratch printed or written - just as they appear on the herbarium sheet. Then comes the cup of hot water and low power microscope and the studies that need to be made any way I record on my own sheet - together with all facts - to the extent of perhaps needless prolixity - which the sketch does not show - such as vesture - texture &c. &c. At first I began by making "notes" but I was often vexed after the plant had passed out of my hands *to find* that I had made a note of *something* unimportant and failed to set down the very thing I most wished afterwards to recall. The tracings are much better - are easily and *quickly* made - and go right into the genus cover where they belong. Try it sometime!

Sometimes *I* dream of getting back into botanical work - *all over* - collecting - revising my Herb. substituting better for old inferior specimens - writing dozens of little notes for publication about hybrid thistles and hybrid violets - a-n-d - hybrid willows - about the folly of "finding numbers" for an amateur's use (shutting off one of the very best uses he ever gets from working over a general herbarium — writing a monograph of North American Salices — and goodness knows what else besides — but alas when I get up and try it — just tentatively in one direction or another — I find as Old Quinlan — an Irish farm hand once said to me "I'm short in the puff — sir"

~~Wishing~~ ~~W~~ Wishing you and yours a Merry Christmas I remain as ever

Cordially your friend

M. S. Bebb

926 Grant Ave
Rockford Ills
Dec 28th/93

My dear Mr Deane:-

I was glad to receive the pretty little calendar - knowing as well as I do the spirit which prompted the sending. I will carry it south with me to date letters by - almost the only use I shall have for dates - I fancy - in the place where I am going. Clearwater Harbor. a little place on the Gulf Coast just north of Tampa - very near Tarpon Springs. Florida,

Your letter of Decr 1st has been riding around too long in that receptacle for unanswered letters the breast pocket of my coat-

I felt sure that Robs plant was a Sisymbrium but could find nothing like it in my herbarium - I can remember now that some very poor specimens received long ago were relegated to the limbo of material too poor for mounting - to be held in hopes of getting better, If I had only had the gumption to consult Hooker or Bentham! but then I would have missed Dr Robinsons authoritative determination

The reference to its appearance after the great London fire led me to consult an old folio Botanical Dictionary of Martyns published about one hundred years ago - and there I found the circumstance dwelt upon in detail - The plant is said to have covered the ruins with such a dense growth that it might have been moved like grain in a field - I judge from what Bentham says of its distribution in Britain that ~~it~~ the plant is only found in or near a few large cities - a sort of companion in habit as it were with Chenopodium urbicum - Strange that any plant should find in any such environment the area of least resistance - the place where it could best hold its own in the struggle for existence -

I mounted quite a little pile of Salices - and enjoyed it too - also enough miscellanea to fully make up for the years discards! Ah my dear fellow after that hibernation of yours gets to be forty years old you will find that you can not explain a famous cover anywhere without good reason to apprehend that you will come across more or less rubbish – better cut them in – for the looks of the whole – And when the pile of such things gets to be 6 or 8 inches thick you begin to feel bad about it and ~~feel~~ in some sort obligated to find something back – in lieu thereof

I leave Chicago Jan 2 via "Evansville Route" – Nashville – Chattanooga Atlanta. Jacksonville – Here I take the steamer on the river as far as Sanford and then cross over via the Orange Belt R.R. to Clearwater –

Write to me
Care of David Starr Esq
Clearwater Harbor
Florida

Wishing you & yours a Happy New Year I remain as ever Cordially
Bill

Clearwater Harbor
Sunday Jan 7th/93
(By the Deane Calendar)

My dear Mr Deane

Your letter intended for a word of "Good bye" I read as a greeting upon my arrival here-

Imagine me swinging in a hammock under a group of Live Oaks - looking up through the spaces between green leaves and Spanish Moss to a sky clear blue and absolutely cloudless. holding my hat with one hand over my eyes to screen them from the glint of the rays which face upon me as I sway back & forth - too bright and too hot for my unacclimated sense - thermometer in the shade 80° - Groups of noisy girls bathing in the surf - flocks of noisy blackbirds in the trees

At first I had to get over a feeling of disappointment that tropical scenery was not "perpetual spring" nor "perpetual summer" - far from either - but I am learning to like it - to take it "straight" - as the old Ga. woman said she preferred her whiskey "as God almighty made it"

Excuse a short letter this time as I have not recovered from the fatigue of my journey

Kindest regards to Mrs Deane - Cordially Bell

Clearwater Harbor. Fla
Jany 25th/934

Dear Mr Deane:—

It is raining— a gentle— steady— copious rain which will do a great deal of good. It is the first rain I have seen since I came here — in fact the rainfall for January up to yesterday was 2.12 inches less than the normal, while the temperature has been far above the normal. I am glad that I encountered such exceptionally delightful weather for I really begin to hope that I have been benefitted by it. Two northerners were discussing Florida— quoth the first "the climate of Florida is worth a hundred dollars an acre and the soil isn't worth a d—m" "that's a fact" responded No 2 - "Why if any fellow is planted in this soil - when Gabriel blows his last trump - he will not come up _unless he has been fertilized_"!

But I must read your letter - pen in hand first and _scatter_ after that. - What a wise man you are to limit your herbarium to the Manual Region - Concentrating your efforts in this way the work without becoming really burdensome so as to sink the botanist in the mere curator gives you at the same time material of the greatest possible _use_ for Study - I enjoyed the sermon on "Bicycling" and after reading sent it home -

I can not tell you anything at all about the flowering season of Phoradendron. It does not occur in this vicinity. but I plan to stop for a few weeks at Demorest on my way north next spring and it is just possible that I may be able to get it in flower there. It was common enough in the vicinity a few years ago but the trees have been stripped of it for Christmas greens except as a few little bunches may have escaped the general onslaught. As I was coming down I saw huge bunches of it in the Sycamore trees along the Tennessee river. In one instance I counted 11 bunches each of which I estimated to be of the size of a half bushel measure on one tree!

Will you please inquire for me of the head gardener at the Botanic Garden — or of anybody likely to know such things what the botanical name is of a tree called the "New Zealand Wattle" It is grown here. but I have not seen it — Said to be a very beautiful tree — My friends here want to learn something more about it — — Do not go out of your way at all but only if the chance comes please remember —

I had a rather severe attack of nervous depression immediately after my arrival which pulled me down a good deal but I am on the mend now — and hope to continue —. What a long summer I am to have beginning in January! Kindest regards to Mrs Deane — Cordially Geo L Best

I have leaves of the "Wattle" in press which will follow this letter in a few days.

Clearwater Harbor, Fla
Feb 13th/94

Dear Mr Deane:—

Yes the "Wattle" is an Acacia! Mr Starr took me a drive of three miles to see the tree. It is a beauty. 20 ft high - 15 ft spread of branches - and leafy from the ground up - the amazing thing to me is the positive assertion of the gentleman who brought the seed from New Zealand that the tree before me had grown in 4 years! from a little seedling set out in January ~~in January~~ '90 - You may have difficulty - the genus so abounds in species - and in recognizing the precise specific identity of the plant, from the leaves alone. But if I mistake not, there are specimens in my own herbarium of the very same thing from a cultivated New Zealand tree. It is probably a tree in common cultivation there. However it is not a matter of any importance since it is apparent enough already that the plant is not "known to the trade" and people hereabouts who want to grow the tree will simply have to wait till the one already so well grown begins to bear seed —

I had not known of Dr. Mayo's

sickness that I read of in your letter - and am glad to learn from your postal of later date that he was "more comfortable"

Had I been granted the privilege before leaving home of asking for such things as might serve to render a five months exile endurable I would not have had the audacity to name many delightful experiences which have actually come unsought - The family here are very musical Mr Starr plays the violin well and reads classical music with exceptional ease and accuracy - His sister Miss Lucretia - a winter visitor like myself

is an accomplished pianist -
a Miss Heath (who is governess
in Col Yeamans family but
head and shoulders above her
employers so far as culture
is concerned) is a very fine
singer - She comes in almost
every evening and we have
music of the very best - Beethoven
Mendelssohn - Schubert - and all the
worthies - galore - Last night
they got hold of an album of
Rubenstein duets - Miss Heath
singing the leading part -
Mr Starr playing the contralto
and Miss Lenriette at the piano -
- I assure you it was fine - I
have many a time paid much
more for a less enjoyable
musical evening -

Remember me kindly to
Mrs Deane - Yours ever Bett

Clearwater Harbor. Fla
Feb 19th /94

My dear Dennie.

I send in the same mail with this some fragmentary specimens of the leaves of that Acacia - called here "New Zealand Wattle". I doubt if they will enable you to even approximately identify the species - nor do I much care. My object at first was to ascertain the name so that if possible my friend Mr Starr might purchase a nursery tree of it somewhere - But I have looked over the Catalogues of all the leading growers of sub-tropical plants and the few

Acacias mentioned by them I know - and know them to be different from this tree -

How thankful I am to have been clear outside the sweep of that terrible storm which struck Chicago with such unprecedented fury - I hate cold weather - but worst of all I hate a cold wind, Eighty five miles an hour! *Think of it!* Here spring has really come. One of the most noticeable changes - one which has taken me most by surprise was that which has taken place in the water oaks. Three weeks ago only they were densely clothed with thick dark green leaves - which showed not the least sign of being annually deciduous - But as soon as the fresh growth started - and the heavy seas on account of the line of Keys which separate the bay from the Gulf. After supper we have music — I think I told you about it — piano - violin - vocal. Beethoven - Mendelssohn - Schubert Schumann - Rubenstein - all the worthies - rendered in a genuinely artistic manner —

The genial climate is balm to my poor old throat — and I feel first rate — What a long summer I am going to have! I plan to go up to Demorest and spend a few weeks there on my way home but am not altogether decided —

Kindest regards to Mrs Deane —

Yours sincerely

M. S. Bebb

blossoms and young leaves began to push out at the tips of the branches - Down came every last old leaf. Down in showers - and now the trees in landscape effect every way present just the appearance we see in the Scarlet Oak in spring time north - The same color - the same thin spray of just appearing leaf & flower.

The weather here is simply ideal - I am weary of raving about it, As I write there is absolutely not a cloud to be seen in the deep blue sky - the tops of the trees are stirred by a gentle breeze. Thermometer in the shade 74°. Toward evening we take charming rides on the water either by rowing or sailing - being perfectly safe from all

Clearwater Harbor Fla
March 2d/94

My dear Mr Deane -

Alas I have let slip the opportunity of a life time to display my knowledge of the world's botany! I thought that I remembered that Acacia - and its name too - but was afraid of airing my ignorance instead of my knowledge. The way it came to be so familiar is this - I have a very fine specimen from Tasmania and I have been in the habit of showing it as an illustration of the normal development of the foliage of Acacias in contrast with the phyllodia - One of my stock show pieces when I have somebody to entertain who wants to "see my herbarium" - However it is better to have your independent judgment and I am consoled -

Many thanks for your kind services in this regard. I am surprised to learn that the plant can be cultivated in the open as far north as Philadelphia - but I will be bound it does not grow fine, fruit per annum in that latitude. Here it is one of the most beautiful trees I ever saw - its peculiar charm being enhanced by the contrast with more familiar American types. The foliage is so so soft - dense - and feathery - that while individual sprays are seen to be almost fern like the total effect is that of a mass casting a dark shadow. The tree top is very symmetrical without being clumsy. I will visit it again for I do not remember the silvery branches.

Last winter I carted a lot of

driers down to Georgia which I
never so much as once used -
This time I brought less and now
I wish I had four times over the
quantity - Nor can I get anything
here to use as a substitute -
However I think it is very likely
that Mrs Bobb will come with
me next winter and that we will
rent a small house and do
"light housekeeping" in which
event I shall feel like collecting
freely for the benefit of friends
as well as myself -

In my morning walk yesterday
I came across a saucer shaped
sink hole with a pool of water in
the centre - Around the sandy margin
of the pool grew plentifully a
pretty little southern Drosera
which I have before received from
Canby and others - It was just

beginning to send up its flower-stalk and will be in good condition for specimens a fortnight hence.

There is a wild spot within walking distance of the village known as "Witches Gulch". It is not truly a gulch in any ordinary acceptation of that term - but the bed of a creek near the coast - very near - which has been silted up by the action of the waves long years ago and now it is overgrown with a weird - luxuriant sub tropical vegetation - tortuous trunks draped in Spanish Moss - branches bent down and many of them broken under a weight of air plants - mainly the more robust species of Tillandsia - with a dense and almost impenetrable undergrowth of low Palmettos and Spanish bayonets (yucca). In one spot several rods in extent grew the most stately Fern I have ever seen in its native wilds - The fertile fronds were densely covered all over the under surface with brown spores so that the two surfaces green and brown made a striking contrast - and as I made my way into the tangle I found that they stood two feet above my head - I had not realized that such a fern growth existed in a wild state - anywhere within the limits of the United States,

How I would enjoy a trip to Boston - to see you and your dear wife in your own home - and Mr Rand with his "charming" mate and all the rest - Dear! Dear! how *we*

august Iowa does interfere
with the things we would like
to do –

I like to get letters from
Rand – He does warm up
so refreshingly on the nomenclature
question – and always writes
so enthusiastically about his
favorite Mt Desert –

A pleasant letter from Coulter
a few days ago – He is coming to
visit me after I get back – It
will be a rare pleasure to entertain
a real, live botanist – You gave me
the slip – I forgive you only
don't let the like happen again –

Very sincerely yours
M. S. Bebb

— 19-188

After March 23^d my address
will be Demorest, Georgia
I shall leave the green woods
of Northern Florida with regret-
but am glad nevertheless that
the time is so near for me to
turn my face northward. If
the mild weather continues I
may be in Stockport by the
middle of May. Fields.

POSTAL CARD ONE CENT.

United States of America

THIS SIDE IS FOR ADDRESS ONLY.

Mr Walter Deane
7 Brewster St
Cambridge
Mass

Demorest, Ga.
March 27th/94

My dear Mr Deane:—

Your letter of the 18th directed to Clearwater and postal of the 24th came to me together in yesterdays' mail— You see you can not calculate the orbit of Uncle Sams mail very well when it crosses Masons & Dixons line— My wife writes to me regularly every day. but sometimes I would be half a week without a letter and then get four in a bunch— It is notorious that the delay occurs in the Jacksonville office but it seems to be recognized as something that can not possibly be helped— No letter from home to-day and I was so anxious to hear for I fear the exceptionally mild weather which has been prevailing all over the southern has been succeeded by a howling blizzard. Yesterday was very cold here with a steady cold wind blowing from the N.W. last evening the thermometer dropped to 22° and this morning it was 11°!! — Cold March weather for any part of the country — and I am fearful that this is but the southern phase of something a good deal worse at home —

There is nothing to collect here for the herbarium — nor will there be anything in the two weeks that I purpose to stay. I plan to resume my journey Monday evening April 9th Leave Atlanta Tuesday morning Due in Chicago Wednesday A.M. Home the same day.

Almost the last day I spent at Clearwater I came across Orontium aquaticum — the first time I had ever seen it growing in its native haunts — It is a quaint and striking plant — The first specimens I ever saw came from Canby — near Wilmington Del. — years and years ago — perhaps the plant grows as far North as your beat — I don't know — But anyway I had never seen it alive before — and herb. specimens had poorly represented its beauty — Against a symmetrically grouped circle of the rich dark-green leaves stands out the peculiar coloring of the stem — spadix bright yellow — then 2 inches of milk white stem — then an abrupt change to crimson —

the fruit - or rather I ought to say after fertilization has taken place the spadix turns green and the stem becomes a dark maroon throughout its whole length. The attractive white disappearing. -

I wish I had some new cases to expand into - especially just one to receive the overflow of Salix - I have been obliged to take out all but the American species and put in an out of the way corner where they lie awaiting -

The idea! After all the research that has gone into the Columbian revised nomenclature that you should go and "reduce" it -

Kindest regards to Mrs Deane -

Yours cordially

M. S. Bebb

980 Grand Ave
Rockford Ills.
April 7 /1[illegible]
May

My dear friend:—

Is it possible that I have not written to you since I left Dunedin?! I was not aware that my delinquency was quite as bad as that! I thought I was doing a very prudent thing when I came up to Northern Ga. to spend a few weeks there and so break as it were the abruptness of the transition from Southern Florida to northern Ills. Under ordinary circumstances it would have been. But so it happened that I ran right into that severe freeze which was as bad north as it was south. The family were quite of the opinion that I ought not to return home before

By May 1st. But as I compared the weather reports from day to day I concluded there was no sense in my tarrying at Denison. Besides I had promised about two weeks of desk work and I calculated that a fortnight of inclement weather would be rather advantageous than otherwise since it would give me a chance to work indoors free from the temptation to rush out in a day in the dark winter. After three months spent in the open air a paltry two weeks of confinement I thought I could stand just as well as not. Well. I came home about the middle of April. The day before my arrival was the height of disagreeable weather. The next day was like summer and day after day succeeded with the thermometer up to 80°. No frost. no chilly night even.

Hence the garden did point. I had everything piled up against me in a heap - garden work - family cares - Willow work - what not. I would not relinquish a single one willingly and yet I feel that I really accomplished less - worked less effectively - from not being able to decide promptly what to take hold of first. And this is why my correspondence is so deplorably behindhand. I have not yet caught up. I returned Faxon's drawings of our arborescent Salices for Sargent's Silva a few days ago with 18 pages - save the mark! - of notes - suggestions - and corrections. I feel a little shaky as to how he will receive them all. But then criticism and not Taffy was what

are welcomed — and he is at full
liberty to receive or reject just
as much or as little as pleases
him.

What a sad story you tell
me of Dr Morrows last days — It
seems to me as if a great mistake
had been made somewhere — as if
somebody was to blame I know
not who. That a man of Dr Morrows
known character and attainments should
go through life — no doubt striving
day after day "to do the right as it
was given him to see the right"
bringing up a family of children —
and bearing all the cares and burdens
incident thereto — filling a more
than average respectable place in
society — and after all this to be
left alone — friendless — in a
hospital of a strange city for
some three months — to die

as it all seems to me. He was into the dark valley till he finally became conscious that the clouds were closing over him. It seems all wrong.

In reply to your inquiry I must say that I know almost nothing of his life. Mr Taylor (a prominent lawyer of this place) was a classmate of his. I will ask him what he knows. My correspondence with Dr Morong began almost with the beginning of his interest in botany, when he was Preacher first and botanist only by way of recreation. Letters were exchanged frequently and afterwards while always retaining a kindly feeling of friendship which was reciprocated when we had [illegible]

the letters were fine and if you
recommend [illegible] for this [illegible] given in
my prayers I have kept track, on
the whole, of my [illegible] consciousness
throughout the year.

If Mother had written to you
as many times as I have heard
her say "I must write to Mr
Dean" you would have been
well supplied by this time.

Yes! we go to the [illegible] in
July & Aug. — Whether [illegible]
the [illegible] Dean?

The children will not let me give
up the cottage at [illegible] and the
summer outing — but if it were
not to please them Mrs B— and I would
go abroad in winter — and stay at home
in summer.

Remember us most [illegible] to Mrs Dean

Cordially

M. L. [illegible]

P.S. In a recent note, of [illegible] [illegible] in The [illegible] [illegible] by Mr. [illegible] [illegible] a new [illegible] of J. Buckingham and I [illegible] [illegible] for [illegible] the [illegible]

J. L. Buckingham [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] those [illegible] from [illegible] clearly [illegible]

Yours truly [illegible]

[illegible] of Pennsylvania [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] for [illegible]
of the Potomac the Army
[illegible] of Pennsylvania [illegible]
[illegible] in [illegible] for [illegible]
[illegible] something
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] of [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] of [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible]

980 Grand Ave
Rockford Ills
May 11, 9[illegible]

My dear Mr [illegible] -

Just home from Chicago after a weeks visiting among the Museums and with the hope almost beaten out of me - I can not stand [illegible] in the way of appointments and engagements [illegible] and yet I can not leave the [illegible] to [illegible] work.

The boys wanted me to join them in an expedition to a favorite collecting ground of theirs in the [illegible] near [illegible], Indiana. I [illegible] as eager as they [illegible] [illegible] among our [illegible] an [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] and [illegible] yet [illegible] the [illegible] the other week. We [illegible]

[illegible] a [illegible] and a half along the
like those after leaving the [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] : Then turned off into
what was supposed to be a [illegible]
picturesque [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] — [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] and [illegible] in [illegible]
in the water and the plants [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] a few [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] for [illegible] [illegible] from
[illegible] where we could [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] with a feeling that
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] from [illegible]
[illegible] — In the [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] of many entertainments [illegible]
[illegible] that this whole [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] had been [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] a [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

the [illegible] and [illegible] ate [illegible]
by which settlers [illegible] only [illegible]
the lake. The trees cut down or
pulled up by the roots with some
powerful machines and the stumps
uniform mowed over.

It was while I was waiting
my reception at Prairie that
the [illegible] and severe [illegible] on
Chautauqua occurred of which [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] was white in the
[illegible] — a fall of fifty
degrees in twenty four hours —
85° to 35° — the cold being
accompanied by high winds.

[illegible] Having a fall of
50° makes an [illegible] with [illegible]
of rain and flurries of snow —
[illegible] which [illegible] kept us all night [illegible]

the [illegible] are coming near the, and the
ground [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] a [illegible]
illustration fails. But the first
experiment only I hope others [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]. The
[illegible] of [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] —

Another illustration of the
use of drawing forms to show
[illegible] [illegible] to help [illegible]
[illegible] in [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] —

It is possible that I did
not adequately [illegible] the [illegible]
[illegible] interesting [illegible] [illegible] the
[illegible] [illegible]! I [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] the [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] the [illegible] [illegible]

used at our [illegible] and many
times to their many moments - [illegible]
I become written to you before
now. The whole story of our lot
& [illegible] -

Yes it is a great comfort
to me that our dear [illegible] lying in
the same house and on the
same ground. Patterson lots
were then counted at 66 feet front
while now the remaining portion of the
lot, on which residences were built is
[illegible] about fifty. If he was
counted a lot. There were countless
methods of measuring as we couldn't
connected from this street as to
and the width at one time the whole
lot was measured. The map

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] of them

I should want to see your letters in the Gazette though I would rather have them as you wrote to the friends at [illegible]

[illegible] says that you should be having a lot of good and [illegible] I hope to [illegible] [illegible] reason [illegible] from Albany, in [illegible] to the appoint. Pres. [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] and [illegible]. He is anxiously doing the best he can. There [illegible] pressures and I hate to [illegible] that [illegible] myself so much I know the [illegible] [illegible], you may [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

Cordially yours

[illegible]

Lauderdale, Wis
Aug 1st/94

My dear Mr Deane -

When our garden at home was in the height of its glory with June roses for a grand finale to the bloom of spring - the lawn soft and verdurous - the shrubs beautiful in their varying shades of fresh foliage our friends would say to us that they could not understand why we should wish to run away from such a place - But we have learned by one years experience after another that there can be no satisfaction in staying through

wonders - Chicago is beginning the swarm in - from overcrowded Geneva & Delavan - and I fear it is only a question of a few years when the place will become altogether too much of a resort to suit our taste - One comfort is it will raise the price of lots and we can sell out at good advantage when we want to - Owing to the stoppage of freight on the Rock Island R.R. Rob and Arthur were enabled to spend more time than usual with us this summer - There will be only two of the young Bebbs at home this winter -

the midsummer droughts - to see the lawn turn brown and the borders grow unattractive in the poverty of bloom which marks the interregnum between spring and autumn. This season the difference has been especially marked - The early part was just ideal - As Martha says we gave away "bushels of flowers" and yet there seemed to be always a profusion left. But even before we ~~left~~ came away things had begun to dry up and since then the heat has been - we are told - something the like of which has not occurred since eight years ago - Here, in the shade of trees catching the breezes that blow from off the lake and in a cottage built especially for midsummer occupancy we keep very comfortable. I fancy however that we are enjoying Lauderdale at just the most comfortable stage of its occupancy - It is much easier to get all kinds of supplies - The hoodlum element that some years ago was wont to indulge in horse play at the expense of the peace and quiet of the better class. has been completely suppressed. But on the other hand we have a fine hotel and lots of

could not see it after all.
Cause why — the plant
was not a variety of
Barclayi but something
else — namely a freak —
wholly unexpected of
S. Barrattiana — for in
all the specimens heretofore
known of this rare plant
from British America — the
character of the type as
being strikingly silvery
silky throughout has been
invariably sustained. when
here comes the first U.S.
representative with not a hair
on it, and M S B came near
being fooled in consequence

Sincerely yours
M S Bebb

quite a "come down" from
the long perspective
of the tail piece to one
of your letters years ago.
Walter starts in on a
4 years course at Medical
College and Will on a
course of 3 years at the
Dental School. So there
will be only Martha and
Frank left.

But it is time I found
a word of acknowledgment
for your interesting letter
from Kennebunkport. The
list of maritime plants
and especially the
mention of Wells, Me

reminds me very forcibly of the things I used to get years and years ago from the Rev James Blake - - not always in the best of specimens. I believe the first Carex Norvegica I ever saw he sent me from the vicinity of "Wells Me"

I have a big job of "dead work" laid out for this fall - if I can hold myself to the performance thereof and find myself physically able - namely to sort over and arrange all my duplicates - I know beforehand that there will be lots and lots of rubbish to discard but I feel almost equally certain that mixed in with that rubbish I will find quite a number of very choice specimens - not always of my own collecting by anonymous - which have been held simply because I did not know where to find them -

What has become of Rand. I have not heard from him in a long time. Is he at Mt Desert or pegging away at "proof"?

It was really too bad that after getting such a good name for my supposed new variety of Salix Barclayi that I

Lauderdale Wis
Aug 16th/94

Dear friend Deane.

A tragic calamity has cast a deep gloom over the Rockford Camp and we are all going home sooner than we expected to. On the evening of Aug 8th soon after the family had retired for the night Mr Hollenbecks cottage was burned. Mrs Hollenbecks mother, an aged and very nervous person became dazed so that her daughter Mrs H was obliged to seize her in her arms and leap from a second story window through the flames. Both women were burned very

day the remaining cottages have worn more the aspect of hospitals than of places of pleasurable resort. Appliances have been sent out from Chicago and to-morrow the patients will be removed to the Rockford Hospital. We will stay only long enough to close up our cottage and follow Tuesday of next week. It seems incredible but only 3 minutes elapsed from the time of the first alarm till the roof fell in - Everything was as dry as tinder and the house was a mere shell - built for summer occupancy - We were all seriously and the elder sustained besides a fracture of the hip and the bones of one foot. Saddest of all the domestic - Sadie Fallon - endeared to us all by her cheerful disposition and many excellent traits of character - lost her life. She had the best chance to escape of any one - but evidently lost her head and left her own room for one where she had ~~evidently~~ thrown herself on the bed face downward. Ten thousand men could not have saved any one from that fierce conflagration who did not save themselves. For the time it lasted - only a few minutes - I never saw such a terrific - perfectly awful blaze. Just at the moment when the heat from the burning building was at its height - the trees round about were roasted to the point of combustion and ~~[illegible]~~ house trees and all flared up in one tremendous roar. For a few minutes it seemed as if our house which stood only 90 ft away must certainly go too but by this time there were 30 or 40 men on the ground and by dashing water against the side of the house and covering the roof with wet blankets it was saved - Since that

glad that Mattie had left
us that very day to spend
a week with a friend at
Delavan Lake.

I had a letter from
Rand the same day, I
received yours and the
proofs came in the
next mail - I must take
time to look them over
before I can write to
him. It would be the
best thing in the world
for me to get my mind
diverted in some way
from rolling bandages
- and the smell of carbolic
acid. but I can not do
it so long as we are

right in the midst
of the dreadful suffering
which so enlists our
sympathies and every
energy.—

How much of both
suffering and achievement
is being crowded into
the life of our "old friend
L. H. Bailey"— I read
a paper of his embodying
the results of an immense
amount of work and the
next thing I hear he is
under the surgeon's knife
again.— I shall await
with anxiety your next
letter.

Sincerely yours
M. S. Bebb

980 Grand Ave
Rockford Ills
Aug 29th/94

My dear Mr Deane:-

We returned home a week ago- Our poor garden looks the picture of desolation after two months of midsummer neglect- with only two insignificant showers in all that time to mitigate the drouth- I had made arrangements to have the lawn mowed but the grass has not grown at all-

My wife called at the Hospital yesterday- Both the unfortunate women are doing nicely- much better than we dared to hope they would at first. Mrs Hollenbecks face was so badly burned that the skin over the whole face was taken off- The burns were not deep and the surgeon assured us that she would be much less likely to be disfigured than if there had been burns in patches with patches left- It seemed hard to believe but she now has the bandages removed from her face and my wife tells me I would be amazed to see how little trace of the severe burning will be left - Of course the new skin has not yet assumed a normal flesh tint - but our friend who was a pretty middle aged woman with a bright attractive smile bids fair now to be quite her old self again - Her mother Mrs Brown will be much longer confined to her bed on account of the fractured hip - Her removal was effected without causing any extra pain or discomfort - Her body was bound to a long splint which reached from the armpit the whole length to her feet - the broken limb being bound securely to the same splint - then she was placed on a specially prepared cot. her body supported on all sides by long - slender - bags of bran - Using a yard width of heavy cotton cloth she was then bound down to the cot - gently but securely - The cot was lifted into a van where it was suspended on four spiral springs - One strong man rode at her head and one at her feet so that as the carriage went up hill or down they lifted their respective ends and so kept the cot level - Mr Waldo said that she really seemed to enjoy her ride into Elkhorn and remarked that she had felt no jar as painful as she had before experienced by persons pressing against her bed -

We *staid* only long enough to close up our cottage - and then came home -

Yes! Rand has sent me a copy of his Flora - and I like it. It is a comfort (certainly to one who half suspects himself of being an old fogy) to find things in some intelligible sequence and not all turned tother end to - Then the style is simple - direct - dignified - The Catalogue carefully prepared - and remarkably free from typographical errors - In fact a pretty close scrutiny failed to show a single letter out of place - I know just enough of that sort of thing to know that it means lots and lots of hard work -

Got all my old duplicate bundles down out of the attic this morning - Have made room for work in the barn - improvising two long (14 ft) Tables - There is a big pile of the old stuff - and I rather dread attacking it - but will limit myself to one hour a day for a starter - Walter carried the bundles down for me while I got them ready - getting ready consisting principally in unpacking boxes and tightening bands.

Yours cordially
M. S. Bebb

980 Grant Ave
Rockford Ills
Sept 23d /94

Dear Mr Deane:-

When giving me an outline of your plans for the summer I think you wrote that you expected to return home Sept 24th. So this will find you once more surrounded by your dearly loved books and plants. Possibly it may lie on your table for a while and greet you on your return from school.

and had a dolorous tale to tell how he had labored over the flats of tidal mud collecting specimens - came back to his hotel dead tired. but with just spunk enough left to wash out his plants in clean water. Then how he left them in the wash bowl. Overslept the next morning - hurried down to breakfast and returning to put his specimens in press found that the chamber

For I fancy from your long tarrying at Jaffrey that you have not given yourself any margin - but return just in time to begin. I hope the summer has treated you well and that you have gained much refreshment of both body & spirit. Jaffrey must possess rare attractions to draw you and your wife thither year after year,

Has Tillaea simplex been "long lost" - Dear-a-me I have been so "long lost" myself I don't know what botanists are getting or what not these days. I wonder if the locality where Canby and I collected it on the E. shore of Maryland in 1863 has since been destroyed. We found it growing with Micranthemum Canby had found it the week before we visited the place in company maid had dumped the whole business into the slop pail and carried it off. And that was why we were collecting Jolluca over again!

I am still plugging away at the red duplicates— not a hilarious job by any means but— I hope to enjoy the results if I do not the process. After all however even the process has flashes of redeeming interest when I come unexpectedly

upon something collected
perhaps thirty years ago
and which I had for
long supposed that I still
possessed only the specm
in my herbarium —

I am rather surprised
to find that my really
active work in the
field practically ended
with the season of 1877 —
— seventeen years ago! It
does not seem to me so
long ago as that — Lots of
old culls to burn up!

Sincerely yours
M. S. Bebb

980 Grant ave
Rockford Ills
Nov 10th/94

Dear Mr Deane:–

I am feeling so much better this fall I have even had the temerity to promise Dr Britton to have ready my monograph of North American Salices by the end of next year. That may mean the filling up of the "bush pocket" again – or be warned in time! How I wish Lloyd lived in Chicago! I have no good reference library for use in botanical research anywhere within reach, though I must confess I have never

the holidays. We will most likely go to Demorest, Ga. and do "light housekeeping" living upon all the delicacies which the southern markets afford such as "side meat", corn dodgers, Georgia beef, canned goods, genuine and whiskey. I think the climate is a better one on the whole for me than that of Southern Florida. At all events I would like to try it again and the fact that I know the place and know what we can do there in the way of securing quarters has much to do in influencing our decision.

I sent off to W. W. Bailey only a few days ago some seen the Catalogue of the Newberry Library. It may be better than I imagine though I apprehend that it does not contain a working collection of botanical books.

I wish you would send me one of your little sheets of Lomma Valdiviana. Every once in a while I am seized with a desire to keep up my general herbarium — and this is a flicker of that emotion.

I wish now I had not spent so much time, money and energy in accumulating a general collection. But it may be of use sometime to somebody.

I have a small collection of Salices made by Mr Leiberg in eastern Oregon during the past season. to report upon to Dr Coville. and Dr Robinson will send me soon a little collection made by the Peary relief expedition which I am to name inside of two weeks. Just a few "grab ups" I expect such as Arctic collections usually are. After this I will begin in earnest on the monograph. I know the plants well enough but am very ignorant in the literary part of the work.

My wife goes south with me — if I go at all — after special suggestions regarding the collecting of Willows - There has not been time as yet for a reply. The fact is the good collector of other things will usually make good collections of Willows and when I came to limit myself to such directions as need not be given fully and explicitly in the body of his work for plants in general, I found that I had very little to say

Mrs Hollenbach and her mother - about whom you kindly inquire. - have not in the end recovered from that terrible accident so fully as their friends at one time had reason to what they were), Mrs H., has recovered from her burns but is in a weak depressed nervous state while her mother, an old and feeble lady at best seems to be losing her mind altogether. The strain from first to last was a severe one met at first by a strength of endurance which filled us all with surprise ending at last in a break from which we had begun to hope might be averted.

We have had a solid week of dull, cloudy weather, some snow, some rain, chilly winds and no sunshine. I long for a change.

Cordially, as ever
M. L. Betts

980 Grant Ave
Rockford Ills
Nov 22d/94

Dear Mr Deane:—

Has Miss Grace E. Cooley returned from Europe? Is she now at Wellesley? I should like to know—

I have been working over Willows with more of the old-time enthusiasm than I would have believed possible two months ago— Have had four collections to name One from Alaska— One from Greenland — Peary Auxiliary Exped coll. sent by Dr Robinson— One made two years ago on the Snake Plains of Idaho by Dr Ed. Palmer— and one from Eastern Oregon made by Mr Leiberg. The most interesting thing — the Alaskan coll was Salix rostrata! This species has a known range from Labrador to the Cascades - and from Arizona to Ft Franklin on the Mackenzie but as it has never been reported from the coast anywhere between the Coast Range and the Pacific I was completely surprised to find it turning up in Alaska - The Greenland collection represents only two species namely S. Brownii (= S. arctica R. Br.) - and S. glauca with intermediate and puzzling modifications. none the less difficult to determine satisfactorily from the fact that the specimens ~~[illegible]~~ in the main were "grab ups" - as we expect them to be under the circumstances attending their collection - Dr Palmer's collection has given me something of the past pored over - I described years ago a beautiful willow from the Sierra Nevada as S. Geyeriana - subsequently it was referred to S. macrocarpa Nutt.

as a var *argentea*, I surmised that the difference in habitat might account for a marked difference in appearance between the two — but now the *var argentea* — so called — has turned up in Idaho right amongst S. macrocarpa you might say — and in specimens so exactly like the Californian that were the two mixed up together nobody could tell which was which — this has been an "eye opener" to me and I rather think now that argentea is a good species for which I think of taking for a name *leucosericea* or *sericoleuca* — I can't decide which I like best — both in allusion to the silky-white appearance of the plant in contrast with S. macrocarpa — To "beat the dutch" how the changes have been rung on *alba*, *argentea* & *sericea* —

argyrocarpa and argyrophylla — sericea and sericans and so on — Argyrea does not appear to have been used but it is not so much the silvery appearance of the plant as the satiny-white of its texture which I wish to express,

Sometime when you are at the herbarium I wish you would see what Nuttall has to say about his Salix pentandra var caudata — and if it is not too outrageously long copy for me — There are no specimens extant that I can find and I wish to see what internal evidence — so to speak — the description itself may afford anent a disputed question of nomenclature.

We are having a dull monotony of cloudy days. Occasionally the sun will appear for an hour or two but I think I am safe in saying that we have not had one clear day in three weeks,

Sincerely yours
M S Bebb

980 Grand Ave
Rockford Ills
Dec 2d/94

Dear Mr Deane:—

I have an item of interest to communicate to Miss Cooley in relation to one of her arctic Willows. I had not heard of her return from Europe.

Salix pentandra. L var caudata Nuttall. Sylva vol 1. p 61. tab. 18.
I had no thought of your finding any difficulty in making this reference or I would have been more explicit— I am glad however to be obliged to look up this exact page &c for I see there is a plate which I had forgotten— It is twelve years since I had the book in my hands— Am I asking too much if I ask you to send me a tracing of this plate— Nothing

studied and painstaking at all - but just outlines.

I have a good deal to do and a good deal to think about in the next three weeks. Family arrangements in case Mrs B and I go south after the holidays. 3 pkgs of Willows to report on and return to the Agriculture Dept. Some administrative work in closing up the estate of the sister who died a year ago. Christmas — something of a trial - albeit a pleasant one - to an old gentleman who can already count up 18 lineal descendants - and more a-coming

Housebound but still feeling pretty well. I go out whenever I can - the exercise in the open air is good for my general health whilst exposure to a chilly atmosphere is bad for my throat. It is hard to tell just what is best,

More anon - Cordially

Bebb

980 Grand Ave
Rockford Ills
Decr 4th/94

My dear Mr Deane:—

You have anticipated my desire. Your letter with inclosure — tracing of Plate and all was received before my last was out of the town of Rockford. Many thanks for your kindness. Sudworth, of the Agricultural Dept. — mousing for old names to set up on purely literary evidence — published a note in Garden & Forest a year or so ago saying ~~that~~ "if Mr Bebb was right in citing S. pentandra caudata Nuttall as a synonym of S. lasiandra Fendleriana (Anders) then the name Fendleriana should give way to the older caudata. I am not prepared to say without reexamining over the question for a while that Nuttalls name should be adopted but it certainly looks very much as if "Mr Bebb was right" in citing it as a synonym of Fendleriana and hence that Mr Sudworths criticism is well taken. The very same thing was collected by Drummond - earlier still than Nuttall - and named in the Type Series of the Fl. Bor. Amer "S. lucida var lanceolata" but whether this variety was published by Hooker in the Fl. Bor. Amer I do not know - By-the-way please look sometime at your convenience -

What a long and delightful letter you send me - I must read it over again (for the third time) pen in hand. Nuttall means that only the variety of C. pentandra is native in this country - He had a fancy for airing his knowledge of European botany and too often gives us this when if he had but known it the space could have been so much better utilized by telling us just what he had seen with his own eyes in the far west. Still he usually does this well and one must not be hypercritical

As you looked over the Parry Collection - Was it essentially European Arctic or American Arctic? I believe Hooker has said that Baffin Bay makes the most noticeable break in the homogeneous circumpolar flora - and if so I suppose the flora of Greenland is more like ~~that~~ of Arctic Europe than it is like that of Arctic America

About Salix Geyeriana - I first named the Californian plant

"S. Geyeriana Anders" but the S. Geyeriana of Andersson is no good being founded on ♀ aments of S. macrocarpa Nutt and ♂ aments of S. rostrata — By the time I had found this out Suksdorf had sent me a Willow from the banks of the Columbia which proved to be genuine S. macrocarpa Nutt — I had some bother in determining this beyond all peradventure for Andersson had transferred Nuttalls name to a single specimen in the Kew Herb. from "Hudsons Bay — Burke" — But Nuttalls species being finally well known the Californian plant I thought best to arrange as a variety — It grew way up in the Sierra Nevada whilst S. macrocarpa was a species of the warm and humid coast and I judged the differences observed might be fairly attributed to difference of altitude and exposure. But now when the variety *argentea* so called turns up in Oregon and Idaho without a shade of variation in the direction of S. microcephala it begins to look to me like a valid species.

Your account of a visit to the Gray Herbarium - with just a touch of characterization for the different botanists you met there I read with great interest. Nobody but me M.D. ever thinks to give us poor way-off fellows those little details which go so far to make the picture vivid and real. For all I have never been in Cambridge since our correspondence began I remember well the location of rooms - desks - passage ways &c it the herbarium - Does Dr Robinson occupy the dwelling - or is Mrs Gray still there?

If a series of "Notes from my herbarium" is going to appear in the Gazette then I am going to renew my subscription! I dropt the Gazette a year or two ago because it made me mad oftener than it brought the least bit of inspiration,

And here I am nearing the bottom of my 6th page with just room to mention all too briefly that in my hasty reply to your postal I quite overlooked for the time being your letter of Nov 24th thanks for the pretty Lemna! It is on a clean white sheet. all by itself - and safely stored away in the herbarium. (But it did not get there till after I had one good scare lest I had lost it - It got mixed up with Willows, as things are apt to do, in this house.)

Enough for this time - such as it is -

Cordially as ever
M S Bebb

980 Grand ave
Rockford Ills
Dec 16th /94

Dear Mr Deane:—

I had a very kind letter from Dr Robinson not long since which I trust there is no breach of propriety in my sending to you to read, It will save me a good many words of explanation and I wanted to tell you that even while prosecuting the work for the new Flora I should have in mind—as a back ground—the preparation of a monograph for the Synoptical Flora— But dont tell Dr Robinson that I sent the letter or he will think I make too free use of my private correspondence—

I have put the duplicate

specimen of Lemna valdiviana in with the other-boxes, someday I will find somebody who will be glad to get it.

May I trouble you once more to do a little copying for me – only do not put yourself to inconvenience on my account – just let it come in sometime when you are at the herbarium on other accounts. This time it is Salix rhamnifolia, Pall. Fl. Ross. ed. min. p. 167. (as quoted by Andersson) Pall. Fl. Ross P. II p. 84. (as quoted by Hooker and Arnott) In addition to this will you please give me the description of the same species in Ledebour Fl. Ross III. p. 612.* I don't know what I am asking of you – it may be too much especially at this busy season – but do take your time and don't let me "impose upon good nature"

We have had exceptionally pleasant weather since the first of December – no snow

* Perhaps this edition will suffice if you find any difficulty in referring to the other

no disagreeable winds and
a mild temperature but I imagine
from the way the wind is
howling around the house tonight
that our pleasant days are
over. It has been very
fortunate for me as I have
got out most every day for a
"constitutional" and am well
braced up for a fortnight
of housing - if I must take it.
I have sent all the willow
collections back except one -
Mr Leiberg's - made in eastern
Oregon. He struck one locality
written on the labels as "In water
1 meter in depth at Swamp Wells
north slope of Paulina Mtns - Alt. 1690
meters" where he got three willows
every one of exceptional interest
but one particularly so. I intend
to make a careful study of it

to-morrow if it is a clear day. for microscopic work. It is in relation to this matter that I would like the description of *S. rhamnifolia*, Pall.

I wonder if that big pile of money controlled by Chicago University will not eventually buy the services of our friend Coulter. I should rejoice on several accounts if it did. It would make a botanist instead of a College President out of one who whatever may be his qualifications as an educator one of the fraternity would be glad to see wholly devoted to his favorite study. Then under his direction, with ample means at his disposal we might have a botanical center built up which would be of incalculable benefit to us poor devils who have to impose on our friends east for all sorts of helps —

Ever cordially Bebb

980 Grant Ave
Rockford Ills

Saturday evening, Dec 29/94

My dear friend Downe

Thanks for everything!
I want to write you a long
letter - and I will soon -
House chock-full of children
home for the holidays -
Lively is no word for it!
Williams just where I left
them more than a week ago -
not touched since - Your kind
services very helpful - will
tell you all about it -

This cold weather is

hard on me. We are planning to get to Miami about the 20th of January. Do not see how we can leave before then.

Kindest regards and best of good wishes for the new year to yourself and wife.

Ever Yours

[illegible] Bell

980 Grant Ave
Rockford Ills
Dec 31st '94

Dear Mr Deane :–

I must tell you the story of a Willow the identity of which you have been helping me to determine. To begin with there is a little group of species represented principally by Salix rhamnifolia Pall and S. fuscescens Anders known hitherto only as growing in Kamtchatka and Alaska. The species – as species – are little known – ill defined and much confused but the group – as a group – is well marked – its characteristics and affinities being clearly recognizable. Now comes the interesting part of my story. Mr Leiberg was collecting last summer in Eastern Oregon and he thus describes a certain locality "The Paulinas where the plants were collected constitute as near a typical desert range as any we can find on the elevated plains of E. Oregon. The whole range is in fact only an extinct crater, or volcano of very large size flanked by a system of lateral spurs and canyons and many isolated hills of scoriae and crateriform buttes. The system is surrounded by the open plains on the north, east, and south. On the west lies the Des Chutes River valley which separates the range from the Cascades by a distance of 30 or 35 miles from summit to summit. The so called "Swamp Wells" is a small pond perhaps 3 acres in extent situated in a depression in the pumice sand between some of the scoriaceous hills on the north slope of the mountain. It is filled only by seepage from these hills. In early spring the water may reach a maximum depth of 3 ft. As the season advances the pond dries up but permanent standing water is reached by digging down in the bottom 3 or 4 feet. Water is scarce in this region and some stockmen owning these willows growing in the Pond sunk a well or two a few years since – hence the name "Ponds Wells" x x x there were perhaps 75 or 100 clumps of the willow in the pond" —— Now this willow, found in this unique and isolated locality is a new species – but strange to say a close member of the Alaskan group mentioned in the beginning of my letter. Is it not wonderful that it should be found so far removed geographically, and never so much as a suggestion in all the collections heretofore made in British Columbia of anything intermediate either in character or situation! About its affinity with the Alaskan plants there can be no doubt; in fact taking this as the normal form we might almost say that the Alaskan plants differ simply in those modifications which all species undergo when made the exotics - such as a prostrate habit - long leafy peduncles - looser umbels, &c. But I can not get over considering and feeling a little awe stricken at the thoughts here concerning the common descent which we now predicate of allied forms. This rare and isolated form should have been preserved in such an isolated and singular habitat for countless ages since the conditions existed which rendered free intercommunication possible between the now outlying members of the group stranded on the Peninsulas during the Ice age. But why so rare? Why not found before in the cold bogs of the higher Cascades? - following the mountains northward as it were like P. arctica. P. farinosa - P. stricta and other arctic species?

You see if I have only a little foothold to theorize on - I get lots

of things to think about all of us,
I wish you would send me the
tracings of Gmelins figures, which
you generously offer. And please
do a few leaves in each case very
carefully as to margins so as to give
me as nearly as possible an exact
copy of the original - just outline
the leaves so done and not spend
so much painstaking on the others -
- I want especially - of the figures
there is at all - to see just the
character of the margin - how far
serrate - or only undulate or entire
and if serrate whether with inflexed
of salient teeth,

Oh! such dinner parties! I
wish I could be a guest at just
one! - You tell me that you have
just had a lot of nice plants
from Missouri - Your memory was -

is always so hastily read that I am
surprised to come across such
hieroglyphics as these — I copy as
faithfully as possible "from No-D-Pro"
must be some Indian Vitamin that
I never heard of before!

Our family dinner Christmas Day
was not so hilarious as it usually is,
three of the family were "half sick"
Poor Mother who had done so much for
us all as to richly deserve the merriest
Christmas possible was suffering from
a neuralgic head ache which came on
only the night before — Walter had a bad
cold — and Pattie's [illegible] was not at
his best to say the least — but there
was enough well ones left after all
to hold the rest up — and we were all
so kindly remembered by friends that
it was a pity if we could not be happy
if not hilarious —

Thanks for the neat leather
Calendar — Ready to take with
me — Wishing of you and Mrs Deane — is
doubtless be our return being both — a
Happy New Year I remain as ever

Fraternally yours
Fred Beck

980 Grand Ave
Rockford Ills
Jan 8th /94

My dear Mr Deane:— 175

My recollection of the matter is that I first wrote to you — at the suggestion of our friend Coulter — asking you to make a tracing of a willow for me — and ~~that~~ you responded so graciously that I have kept you at that sort of thing ever since — Why — under the circumstances shouldn't I be a good-natured correspondent!

I ought to have deciphered "N. W. Ro" but for an honest fact I couldn't — I should have missed the fun of your appreciation of the situation if I had done so —

I thoroughly enjoyed your long letter — full of little touches of some life - and of the way things go at the herbarium - All sentiment - at any rate all qualms of conscience in taking some little flower from its native haunts and "putting it to rest on a white sheet of herbarium paper" I lost years and years ago when this country was first settled - - How beautiful the rolling prairies were before man's incoming! You never saw an old fashioned prairie "breaking plow" - It was drawn by three huge oxen and cut a furrow 30 inches across - the sod was cut only about two inches thick and was laid over as smooth and even as the boards of a floor - On the "land side" stood in all the purity and freshness of its pristine beauty the native vegetation - on the other was a black field with not a vestige of living plants to be in years -

I don't know whether I have told you or not - but receipts of grain are so light on the Rock Island R.R. that Rob will let Arthur off during the first two months that wife and I are gone and he is coming out to stay with Mattie and Frank and the three will keep the house open - March 20 Walters first year at Medicine school ends and then he will take Arts place - This is so much pleasanter to think of in leaving home than to be obliged to close the house and "farm out" the youngsters -

The "sick ones" are all well again - We are quietly getting things ready for the trip South - I can stand a few extra days of cold weather better than I can the excitements of rushing.

Sincerely
Brd Robb

seen - Such an outfit - and there were thousands of them at work all over the country - would destroy in one hour more beautiful plants than have been collected by all the botanists of the state since the Indians were driven out. A few choice things were left on stony knolls where the stones would dull the *sharp* edge of the breaking plow - or in nooks too irregular in shape to pay for cultivation but even these gave way a few years later to blue grass and cow pasturage - *Troximon* which grew out in the open and upon the richest and sunniest slopes was about the first choice thing - botanically considered - to be utterly exterminated I have not seen a plant of it growing

Demorest. Ga.
Feb 3rd/95

My dear Mr Deane:—

We left Rockford Wednesday - Jan 16th on a Pullman ticketed through to Atlanta without change. We had a very early breakfast at Holly Springs, Miss. at which point our car was detached from the "Chicago & New Orleans Limited" and our course deflected abruptly eastward. The route through Mississippi and Alabama to Birmingham was new to me. The country till we began to climb the foot hills of the mountains was low, flat and [illegible] calculated to [illegible] malaria and other [illegible] [illegible] seen. It was a [illegible] better adapted to agricultural [illegible] than any I had seen on the route via Nashville and Chattanooga past the [illegible] of the [illegible] of the Tennessee. The old stalks of [illegible] [illegible] still standing in the fields showed that a good crop had been made the past season. The fields were larger and there were more cottages [illegible] [illegible] cultivation — Still everywhere was the same unmistakable evidences of poverty, lack of thrift, idleness and dependence so common at the South. I noticed over one mean little country "store" a sign like this "Whiskey and Wines. Tobacco and Snuff." — [illegible] [illegible]" and an effect of your own [illegible] [illegible] the [illegible] of the [illegible].

My wife got her first realizing sense of the poverty of the poor whites and the [illegible] [illegible] in our [illegible] brought face to face with the stern problem of their ignorance — [illegible] [illegible] at the [illegible] [illegible]. She [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] for the poor children — [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] with the slightest effort of [illegible] [illegible]. One day [illegible] [illegible] she [illegible] [illegible] a [illegible] of [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] and she [illegible] the little cottage.

We occupy the two lower rooms. The family having their special private belongings stored in the rooms [illegible]. The rooms are papered with Japanese paper and comfortably clean and neat, and the furnishing is [illegible] and appropriate. In the front room we have a good bed with [illegible], springs and mattress. The drugget over the [illegible] old fashioned mahogany [illegible] with [illegible] drawers which [illegible], a center table at which I am writing - an old time Seth Thomas clock running by weights and with a very loud tick. Two rockers - several cane-seat chairs - a chiffonier holding a set of the Encyclop. Britannica [illegible], and best of all a good open fire place. The room back which serves for dining room and kitchen - "we dine in the kitchen and kitch in the dining room" has a good cook stove - dining table - and [illegible] stand and closets containing all the pots, kettles - pans and dishes required. There is a porch and wood house out in back. For all of which we pay the reasonable sum of $15.00 per month. Board - [illegible]

It is a [illegible] and I suppose [illegible]
[illegible] pile of [illegible]
as I find [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] Beans for [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] for two [illegible] the other
[illegible] 21 cents. Eggs perfectly good
[illegible] 15 cents
per doz. [illegible] potatoes cost as [illegible]
"[illegible]" [illegible]
[illegible] potatoes
50 cents per bushel. Bread, butter and milk
cost the same as at the north. And
furthermore let me tell you that the
milk brought to our door daily is from a
cow kept by the President of the Bank and
Mrs Bibbs washerwoman has gone to
Atlanta this week to attend a "suffrage
convention" — Do think! Oh it is the queerest
place I ever got into — "dead as a door nail"
but that don't affect the things we came
here to find — a mild climate — pure mountain
air — drinking water the best in the world —
and — a few weeks of quiet retirement —
I must not omit to tell you that by

the very first mail after our arrival came the Jan. No. of The Gazette for which I have renewed my subscription – and I read "Notes from my Arboretum" to Dearian through and through that it almost seemed as if it were a personal communication. Yesterday I received the separate for which please accept my thanks. Barnes did well to mark it No 1 and "ask for more"

I know perfectly well that I am ignoring your last charming letter. That shall serve me for "suggestion" next time – I ought to have answered it long ago but I have "been under the weather" and haven't gotten on top of it yet and in leaving home and getting settled here there has been so much to distract, I hate to plead incompetency or weakness – over and over again till they are worn threadbare but it is a "demnition grind" when you try to do under stress the things which would afford so much pleasure in the doing if you were only able –

I will try to do better next time –

Cordially,
Fred S Dell

Denver. Colo.
Feb 17/95

My dear Mr Doane :-

Three delightful letters in three days! What a capital correspondent you are. I wish I could keep pace with you! It is so generous in you thus to tell me of all your recent acquisitions and all the details of Museum work, when I can make no return in kind. But I get a very pure pleasure out of it all & I assure you carried back as I am by your fresh enthusiasm to the times — twenty years or more ago — when I could have matched your experience with my own. The gathering in of fresh materials from abroad — the hitherto unrepresented in any museum. The arrangement of the specimens in the [illegible] [illegible]. [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] a heart in the work and then what real enjoyment it affords. You must get a good many specimens by purchase - for a rarity as I can judge by your letter you did not work hard enough through the summer collecting - to get a sufficiency of material to keep up all by exchange.

"Salix glaucophylla, Bebb" about which you inquire is only a form of S. longifolia, but whether your correspondent has rightly identified his plant with the S. [illegible] of Andersson [illegible] is another matter. As a general rule when persons not intimately familiar with the genus Salix set out to be extra smart thing "on their own hook" they usually end by doing something not at all wise. [illegible] the [illegible] of Salix on the Pigeon River [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] applicable to the species as it occurs elsewhere.

While it has been severely cold all over the north there has been really no place in the south where inclement weather could be avoided altogether. On the morning of Feb 6th the newspapers reported that nowhere throughout the mainland of the U. S. was the thermometer above freezing except at Palm Beach Lake Worth Florida and there it was [illegible] 38°. It snowed at Tampa and of course at Clearwater. Even Punta Gorda and Charlotte Harbor did not escape. With us the oranges and fresh vegetables frozen and seeing the leaves dropping from the Water Oaks Florida does not present its usual attractions this winter. But [illegible]

It would surprise [illegible] a day or two [illegible] 20th
stopped on Thursday morning [illegible] was very
quiet until [illegible] but the [illegible] day [illegible] to
blow at first in gusts then later on
with strong squalls [illegible] by the middle
of the afternoon it began to grow
bitter cold. We were in hopes that the
wind would go down with the sun and
it did indeed stop blowing for a little
while but set in again with redoubled
fury, a regular [illegible] of gale which
has kept up all night. We [illegible]
on board but then [illegible] very [illegible]
[illegible] to plunge into the [illegible] [illegible]
keep a roaring fire in the [illegible]
[illegible] through the night. But the ~~[illegible]~~
outside [illegible] had sunk below zero and the
cold [illegible] on all sides
and [illegible] of a [illegible] not [illegible] to
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible], [illegible] may go [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

the atmosphere of the whole room when I tell you that a tumbler of water left standing on the mantel piece over the fire froze up. The [illegible] [illegible] of frozen milk. We were compelled to beat a retreat and congratulated ourselves that we were able to fall back upon my old boarding place of two years ago - Mr Bartelles. He has a regular northern-built house heated by a big wood-burning furnace. We told them we did not care what they gave us to eat if they would only keep us warm! This they did - in fact it rather overdid. Happily the severe cold lasted only two days and we were able to return to our own [illegible] Christmas Sunday morning after [illegible] and I have been pretty comfortable ever since.

The sun is shining today and there is every indication of milder weather.

Vegetation here is as completely dormant during the winter months as it is at the north and shows a curious tardiness in responding to a few warm days such as we have in [illegible] would start everything growing. The only herbaceous perennial which I observe out in the open bearing green leaves which will form [illegible] of the spring plant may be referred to a curious broad variety of [illegible] - I suspect the same as Dr Britton has described under the name of Senecio [illegible]

I'm not sure but that I shall have a little to say about [illegible] by and by in the [illegible] [illegible] regards from [illegible] to your [illegible]

[illegible]

Demorest, Ga
March 8th
95

My dear Mr Deane:—

Your account of the way you and Bailey put in your time makes my head swim, runs my pulse up to a hundred! I give you fair warning that if ever I do come to visit you at Cambridge you must slacken your pace or I shall be driven to take refuge with Rand who "never goes out evenings except from a sense of duty" or when he feels that he "must go and see Deane to catch something of his hopeful spirit".

Rand has often mentioned in his letters instances of Britton's arbitrary actions and

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been right and that following the rules adopted by Prof Sargent Mr Sudworth was also right. It was a small matter but it annoyed me! The idea of having written under one of Mr Faxon's beautiful plates "S. lasiandra caudata (Nutt) Sudw" when I had done all the work! When any botanist does an honest stroke of work doing something that I had neglected to do - or had not done well - no one shall be before me in acknowledging the service rendered, but to see all credit slip away from me by the mere skit of a pen was too bad! However I tried to look at the matter in a philosophical spirit reflecting how many persons, so much more worthy than I, had suffered in the same way — In this frame of mind I has been earnest in his Cautions but I found no like cause for complaint. But here we have not only charge *but specifications.* It does seem to me that a check should be put upon such *high-handed proceedings* – Prof Bailey has such a high standing, and so commands the confidence of the botanical fraternity that a bit of wholesome criticism from him would carry great weight, Especially as he is generally regarded – I suppose – as being on very friendly terms with the *Bulletin* "set"

Now I have a story of my own to tell – Nothing with the on-go and swing of yours but perhaps equally characteristic of the writer – of his quiet – stay-at-home, plodding [illegible] Part of it I have told you before, but will begin at the beginning so as to be perfectly understood. Two or three years ago Sudworth had an article in the Garden and Forest in the course of which he hit me as follows "If Mr Bebb is right in citing S. *pentandra* β *caudata* Nutt. under S. *lasiandra* *Fendleriana* then *caudata* should take precedence of *Fendleriana* as the name of this variety" – It had been ten years since I have seen Nuttalls Sylva – I let the matter run along without revision till Prof Sargents work precipitated the necessity for looking the matter up – I wrote to you – got a copy of Nuttalls description to which you added a tracing of the plate – I found that I had that is without conscious effort.

From the terms of affection and esteem in which Rand often referred to his senior associate I can well imagine how sincerely he must mourn his loss. Your tribute is one which any botanist might aspire to win from his surviving friends

I have broken, past all hope of mending, my old stylograph - It had shown signs of decrepitude for weeks back but at last gave out altogether - and awkward as I find myself in the use of a substitute I am obliged to come down to a stub pen

Sincerely as ever M S Bebb

happened to come across a tracing I had made of a spcm in the Torrey Herb, with the following label - "Salix lucida β lanceolata No 39 Herb Ho. B. & 7. Rocky Mtns Drummond" - Here was a clue worth following up - I wrote asking you if Sir W. J. Hooker had published any such variety in the Fl. Bor. Amer. You sent me the description which was to the point and confirmed my expectations that no habitat was ——. After I came down here and had a little time to collect my thoughts I wrote to Mr Baker asking him what specimen or specimens there might be in the Kew Herb. authenticated by Sir W. J. Hooker as the type of his S. lucida β lanceolata. I have just received his reply - There is only one specimen. The:

authenticated and that is the one collected by Drummond! and corresponding with that which I have already mentioned. - This settles the question! No doubt had Hooker not neglected to give the habitat of his variety the application of the name would not have been so long overlooked. As it is, now, I take off my hat with a smiling countenance and graciously excuse from further attendance Prof Andersson with his "Fendleriana" and Mr Sudworth with his "caudata" - We have no further use for either and, if you please, the name is to be Salix lasiandra β lanceolata (Hook) Bebb. I'm tickled. It is "human nature" and I can't help it! It is all too funny for any use! To cut around Mr Sudworth just as he cut around me and check mate!! for there is nothing back of the Fl. Bor. Americana -

For Mrs Bebb as well as for myself I return thanks for the pleasure with which we have read the verses written by Dr Rivers's little daughter. They are indeed remarkable - I can say to you what I would not like to say to Mrs R. that they raise a question in my mind as to the psychological emanation of mind or phenomenon, Inspiration as the poets are wont to call it but which has attracted much attention of late under the prosaic name of "automatic writing -" Editor Stead says that Tennyson never hesitated to affirm that more than half of his poetry was written "automatically"

Demorest Ga
March 17th

My dear Mr Lloyd:—

Please excuse the use of a pencil till I can get a new stylograph — for which I have sent to my son in Chicago. I found that the use of a pen was bringing back symptoms of the nervous paralysis with which I was threatened years ago and from which I found a happy relief in the *pencil point* so to speak of the stylograph.

You ask my opinion of Geo Massee — You ought to have given me *your opinion* and left me to revise it if mine differed, but since you ask

carefully — But this is a very wonderful Myxo! Think one of Mr Massee and wont some rich somebody please go down in their pocket to enable Mr Massee to write a "*Memoir*" about it, And what in the name of common sense could be made of the same from the chance! With the few sentences about this Myxo I thought he was off on a minute's tribute to Dr Kellogg — But no! He was just blowing his own horn. I got all I cared to get out of this story of "where the dog was found" in one "rapid review" but any other man not

Nice you! He is the peculiar product of the German scheme of education. I have known some such, notably of our German professors at Erlangen. They are all German. No other country on the face of the earth produces their like! Precocious talent coupled with exceptional receptive capacity mistaken for working force. Our educators egregiously self conceited - an everlasting scheme for [illegible], or "the government" to furnish them "the means to do some transcendent work when they have not the capacity to do the simplest thing well. Take this Catalogue for instance. It is a register

ahead by performance - here one gets the names of the botanists by whom the things credited as well as those generic. The Gramineae, Cyperaceae and Juncaceae totally left out. "[illegible] made" for Mr Hanson indeed, - and then too in a collection determined by another person - think of the different lists Pringle or E. Hall would have given! Then he finds a hybrid oak - Boom! Boom!! What a magnificent discovery! I venture to say there is not a botanist living anywhere in the U. S. who can not find a hybrid oak if he once search his neighborhood

let my wife go for the leaves!
There's gallantry for you!
I believe some parties in
N. Carolina - One morning we were
at Highlands for one - send
fading leaves north to be used
for decorative purposes.

I have an impression that
the altitude of Demmont was
1652 ft. but I may be way
off - I rule conjecture.

As I do not own the Plan
Fire [illegible] & Garden Botany
(Bailey - I have not a book
in which better qualified to
complete such a thing than
Dr Gray, I do feel [illegible]
a [illegible] a distinctive
[illegible] modification from the
purpose of preventing [illegible]

going on - he let me off so easy.
She took the story seriatim and
made me listen to a lot of
it that evening - read aloud -
Poor fellow! He is "ill adapted"
Predestined to disappointment,
You can not help him!
If he would only settle down
[illegible] for his friends
and work for the next time
in an [illegible] present situation
as superintendent of our
experiment station - Take
his botany as a recreation.
Bring me a good big [illegible]
full of wood to make a
fire next morning - Love

Visiting from Nashville on a head of Gray's [illegible] his wife all he wants to and keep it as a home affair – there might be some hope. But this restless unreasoning passion to be first in the way of doing something ostensibly for the cause of Science but in reality to feed the inordinate vanity of Geo Hanson can only lead – as I said before in bitter disappointment – The count hogging too – How essentially foreign it is – No American – I don't care who he is or what rank in life he follows – would do such a thing. x x x But I must learn myself now to disdain all notion of picking those Galax leaves, the plant is not very common here – grows only in a few favorable localities all a mile or more distant. Generally found at the foot of steep hills with a north exposure – where there is more or less seepage and dense shade. It is at home and flourishes in the mountains farther north. It was a pleasant day and wife and I took a walk to "the rapids" on Hazel creek. Arrived at the crest of the steep declivity at the foot of which the Galax grows I reasoned thus. I can go down easy enough. It would be lots of fun to pick the leaves. But oh! the getting back again up that hill – so what should I do but seat myself on a stump and

Demorest, Ga
April 12th
'95

Dear Mr Deane:—

I send you my old, well thumbed copy of Anderssons Salices Boreali-Americana. Sometime when you are up to the herbarium will you do me the favor to page it to correspond with the volume of proceedings in which it originally appeared, and then return to me at Rockford

We expect to leave here Tuesday evening

long enough for one day.'

Northern Georgia as a winter resort has been a failure the past season. For the greater part of the time the weather has been inclement. From all the information I can gain and making all due allowance for the proverbial excuses of residents ~~that~~ they "never saw the like before" it seems to have been an exceptionally disagreeable winter. Windy-chilly, changeable with a prevalence of long continued east storms. You have—in all human

April 16th We are obliged to stay over night in Atlanta taking the train for Birmingham and Holly Springs at an early hour — 6. A. M. — the next morning — Pass through Chicago at. 2. P.M Thursday and reach home the same evening —

I brought some Willow work with me but week after week went by and it was not touched — At last I began to fear I might carry it back home again all undone. I do not like to acknowledge myself beat in that sort of way so about ten days ago I braced up and made a beginning of devoting 3 hours every forenoon to the accomplishment of my task. In a very little while I became interested — finally enthusiastic and am proud to say that it is all done — But three hours over a low power microscope and drawing analyses rather interfered with letter writing. After I was through I felt that for healths sake I [illegible] [illegible] over the table.

probability answered your last letter to me at Demarest. Unless - in time wife and I might come down here in October on our way to Florida and stay for a month or two of the late autumn which I have no doubt is delightful,

How delightfully busy and occupied you are with your submarine work. I know what the enthusiasm is and the field is so open and tempting for fresh gratification in that way that I am at times almost tempted to resume my teaching. But after all it seems I can do better now — much better and more satisfactory to myself and better for the University we love — by devoting all my available energy — limited at best — to the Willows.

Can you give me the present address of Prof. C. S. Crandall — several years ago at either the State University or Agricult. Coll. of Colorado. I want to ask him something about Salix irrorata —

We had a good laugh over Mrs B.'s *perilous descent* of the cliff for lily bulbs, Cordially — Bebb

980 Grant Ave
Rockford Ills
May 3d/95

My dear Mr Deane

The day after my return home I was prostrated by an attack of influenza which emptied me out of all energy of both body & mind. I do not know when I have felt so good for nothing. After two days I was as completely drained as if I had been sick of a fever for a month. I was compelled to give up everything and that too when there was so much that I wanted to do. It seemed churlish not to respond to your kind letter which I found awaiting my arrival and which added so much to the pleasures of this warm evening - and I have wanted to thank you for giving Anderson's A.A. Indians. (which I have not yet looked over) for the separate pages of your Ethnobotanic notes &c. There is so much left undone which I expect to have done! I am hoping to be stronger soon, but the misery of it is my friends will give no encouragement to any such expectations. This only as a word of apology and explanation. I am not sick. If I lie still and quiet I can imagine myself capable of doing almost anything but when it comes to the doing - well I just have to give up.

Ever thine
Peter

980 Grant Ave
Rockford Ills
May 19th
'95

My dear Mr Deane -

Coulter came out Friday evening to lecture at Rockford College - Arrived at 4.30 P.M. Walter met him at the station and drove rapidly to our house a distance of a mile - Greetings - a little desultory talk and dinner then an hour and a half in the herbarium - Carriage at 7.45 - for the college - Mattie and Walter went over with the Doctor. I do not go out evenings and the night was chilly. I was surprised to see the Dr back by 9.15 - A delightful family conversation cut short because we knew that our guest was tired and must be up by 5 o'clock the next morning. — Breakfast at 5:30 — Carriage for station at 5:50. — Lecture in Chicago at 10. A.M. — We had to crowd things you see but we did it! — When it was announced at the dinner table that Coulter and Rose had recently dedicated a new genus to one Walter Deane. You should have heard the spontaneous clapping of hands. — Then by way of explanation to my guest I went on to say that Mr. Deane was a sort of family favorite — Coulter laughed and said he understood all that and that no doubt the feeling was reciprocated. "Why! I'll bet you and that Deane - Torrey - Jennings name about your family, those being your neighbors" — I am still awfully lazy, & must drive myself to the performance of the simplest task it's morning, & later

[illegible]

982 Grant Ave
Rockford Ills
June 7/88

My dear Mr Dixon

If I could only look on any track and "notes" I would send up my compliments [illegible] your style. I will not [illegible] of it [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] from the rest of them. I find the best [illegible] my [illegible] are only [illegible] in the [illegible] a [illegible] in my [illegible] and a [illegible] [illegible] Northern. I hope you will excuse [illegible]. I am not good for much and I [illegible] [illegible] me to [illegible] the [illegible] of the [illegible] except that the life [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] as I always [illegible] [illegible].

I ought to have written to you [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] the [illegible] the [illegible] [illegible] I [illegible] [illegible]. [illegible] and I [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] the [illegible] [illegible] and I [illegible] [illegible] of the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible].

At what intervals, whether [illegible] [illegible] in a series of strata — or [illegible] [illegible] — [illegible] [illegible] — [illegible] to [illegible]. The [illegible] of the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] of the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]. The [illegible] of [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] — [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] a [illegible] of [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible].

New species are [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]. The [illegible] in [illegible] of the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] of [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] the [illegible] of the [illegible] — About the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] — [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] by position on [illegible] Committee - and a [illegible] of [illegible] work for the young to be given the job out of it. [illegible] [illegible] the projects (if there were any projects) and I [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] in the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] but nearly the same [illegible] at all!

Sometimes when I am [illegible] and feel more like it I [illegible] [illegible] a little [illegible] of my life - there is much more to tell.

Do you remember how [illegible] a [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] of [illegible] [illegible] your [illegible] and [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] 2 or 3 young [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] a [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] nothing [illegible] [illegible] the [illegible] of the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] I [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] a [illegible] of [illegible] the [illegible] [illegible]

980 Grant ave
Rockford. Ills
June 24th
'95

My dear Mr Deane:

We have planned to go up to Lauderdale the 6th of July but the children are impatient - the weather continues hot and dry - and altogether we have finally decided to go July 1st (just one week from to-day) instead. This shortens up our time considerable and leaves us all with plenty to do, if we get all things in readiness for our departure at the earlier date - Both indoors and out there are so many odds and ends that need to be looked after when we all expect to be away for two months.

My son Robert is occupying the cottage with his family this month and Walter has gone up to show them how and where to get supplies. It is quite a matter of experience derived from year after year of camp life in one locality to know just what farmer's wife makes the best butter, where to get milk and berries and vegetables and so on. Very important matters after all, since however we may magnify the aesthetic side of the question it is an indisputable fact that life at the Lakes develops an nitrogenous appetite. Happily it calls for and is satisfied with plain country fare. Summer.

there is enough of it, Arthur lives with Rob so in the absence of the elder brothers family, instead of seeking a boarding house he has had Walter come in and keep house for him, Walter will go directly to the lakes when Rob returns. Walter writes from Barnardsville that he went "on the marsh" (the [illegible] [illegible] for him) and returned with an arm full of magnificent blooms of Cypripedium spectabile. He says that for once he saw more than he cared to gather,

I thought Dr Coulters reply to Dr Robinson was a poor - weak - exceedingly common-place performance but since reading of Dr R's rejoinder I cannot think that he Dr C would want to return to some shady recess of this National Museum and quit.

I have been much interested in your account of your study of seedlings - some "Notes from my Herbarium" should grow out of it - A botanist need not travel far to find fresh objects to interest him: and after you have exhausted your little area known from the ordinary collectors stand point - and got all the roots from the extraordinary collectors stand point - it is quite in a consistent order of things that you should make this new departure - Cordially Babb

Lauderdale, Wis.
July 7th /95

My dear friend Deane -

Lauderdale never has seemed more attractive to me than it does this summer. Mrs Babb made a remark last evening which I wonder it has not occurred to some of us to make before - namely - that the Lakes are really quieter now than they were when we first began coming there, seven years ago. With all the cottages and guests at the hotel there is less noise and disturbance than there was in the earlier day. At that time there were half-a-dozen "Clubs" which came out every season with the express purpose of "raising old Ned" in which purpose they were eminently successful. It may have been "fun" for the "clubs" but it was a serious annoyance to the few families that came here for a month or two of rest. Happily every one of those clubs is defunct - their property having passed into private hands, with the exception of the "Beloit" the members of which have a quarrel among themselves - neither party being able to buy out the other and so both stay away. The club owns what is called "Beloit Island" the most valuable property on the Lakes.

The evening of our arrival I was told - not to say - commanded by my better nine-tenths to go and lie in the hammock while the rest of the family unpacked the trunks - to lie-in fact. till I was called to supper! Well I *was* all stuffed up with dust and car smoke - somewhat tired - and so offered a very feeble protest. How grateful was the pure air and the perfect stillness of that summer evening! - I felt then - what I have already begun to realize - that Lauderdale would serve me better than did Georgia last winter. I have brought a lot of mellow work with me and hope to accomplish something worth while if I do gain in strength.

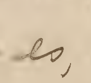
I had a nice letter from Jim before I left Rockford - and another since my coming here what a generous fellow you are not to "keep count"

I did not know how it was with Rand's Talk. But before I got the hint from you I had begun to notice the morbid feeling in his letters which you deprecate and in my last letter to him - dropping all threads of previous correspondence I set out to "shake him up" and make him realize that there was nothing in the whole business to give any one of us a moments anxiety or concern - If any one need feel blue it is Britton - over the flat failure of the book with a long name - As even Dr Coulter remarked to me "evidently condemned by the botanical fraternity" We are to have a 6 lb pike which Walter caught yesterday baked for dinner to-day - Wish you and Mrs Deane could be with us!

Cordially Bebb

Lauderdale Wis
July 24th/95

Dear Mr Deane:—

I must write if only to return your friends letter and to thank you for thinking of the pleasure it would give me to read it. How little we know—at best—of the teeming life all about us!! I am promising myself ~~that~~ in a day or two I will write a decent reply to your recent letters—so full of pleasant pictures of your vacation life. Just now I want to submit a problem in Natural History, to you. If you can not solve it you will most likely know the person who can! The lily-pads here at the west, and I presume it is the same with you at the east - are always found full of holes of nearly uniform size and shape, about like this In most cases the hole is complete but often a flap is left which exactly fits the edges of the hole - thus  - Now the question is how are these holes made and for what purpose? When near a lot of pads, especially on a warm day you will hear a constant snapping sound - like the closing together of the two halves of a bi-valve shell - The opinion prevails among the common people ~~that~~ these holes are made by a fish. That the fish sees an insect on the top of the leaf and coming up from below - sucks the leaf - cuts the hole, and catches the insect. If this is the true explanation of the matter what fish is it that does the business? I should think it would have to have a "sucker" shaped mouth but even then I do not see how the round hole should be cut every time when an irregular rupture would seem to be the most natural result of the sucking process.

I still keep "pegging away" at Willows though I do not accomplish the amount of work in a given time that I did a few years ago. I usually begin right after breakfast and work till eleven. that ends it for the day. rest in the hammock till lunch. Visiting - reading social pleasures fill up the early part of the afternoon. From 4 to 6 P.M. letters - when they get written at all. After dinner a boat ride on the lakes till long past sun-down. then for me it is "early to bed" not because I am sleepy but because it is so restful to lie down relieved of the burden of conventional clothes.

Cordially, Bibb

July 27th/95

Here is a letter that I thought had gone on its way two or three days ago -

A good refreshing rain last night - Why could it not have had a little such weather as we are having now in May, and June -

to save the crops and the gardens - However we are thankful that the drought that was so severely felt about Rockford was in a remarkable degree - local.

There were good rains all about us but we got none of them -

M.L.B. -

Lauderdale Mis
July 29th, 93-

Dear Mr Deane

I feel quite "set up" by the thought of having my name mentioned in that goodly list of those "well known - even on this [the European side] of the Atlantic" - & - because I feel some qualms of conscience when I think of the better selections that might have been made further down in the list - but "our cat has a long tail" for all that - Thank you for sending me the extract which otherwise I would not have seen. Your letters are worth the Bulletin and Gazette rolled into one in keeping a secluded amateur like myself posted as to what is going on in the botanical world - What a lively time you are likely to have at Springfield - I hope there will be enough Conservatism present to make the Neo American school feel that they can not have things their own way without opposition - they have assumed such a domineering manner that I am sick of it and want to see them "sit down upon"!

Cordially Bebb

Lauderdale, Wis
Aug 19th
95

Dear Mr Deane

I inclose what Paddy would call a collection of holes! I thought I was drying the specimens under ample pressure but I find them very much distorted - You must soak them up in hot water in order to get an idea of the true form - Do not fail to do this.

We all read with much interest your long letter - a sort of "midsummer number" as the magazines have it - Delightful reading for the lake-side on a warm lazy afternoon.

I inclose a caricature which may amuse you - the fine expression of contempt and disdain on the countenance of the Aegyptian damsel standing just to the left of the small boy - is very funny - Do not bother to return the clipping -

I shall be glad of an extra plate of Deanea. I will "mount" it on a herbarium sheet, duly enfold the sheet in a genus cover and give it a place in my herbarium. It will probably be the only representation of the genus I will ever acquire. I have several personal friends remembered in this way. Canby for one, though in this case I have two or three collections of the plant as well.

What you say about finding seedlings of Hammamelis under the bushes reminds me of a communication made by Temple & Beard to Garden & Forest (I think it was) several years ago. They wished to raise the plant from seed and sent up into N. H. for a large quantity of the seeds which were put in thickly in a long trench. I think (if I remember rightly) that it was not till the second or third year that any of the seeds germinated. Then with the tardiness characteristic of the species they began to come up. These were transplanted in due time and thenceforward year after year up to the date of the communication the same planting had continued to give them an annual supply of young plants.

We were so interested in your account of the homing pigeons that we actually expected a postal by the next mail giving us the latest news.

We go back to Rockford ten days from to-day - ~~this~~ is Thursday Aug 29th - The necessity of getting Mattie and Walter ready for their winter in Chicago calls us back earlier than we would go otherwise. The summer has been I think to us all an exceptionally delightful one - nothing in the future prospects of a single member of the family to detract in the least degree from present enjoyment - and then it has happened happily that so many of the children could come back at the same time

Kindest regards of all the Bebbs to Gurney and Mrs Dean. Mattie says ~~that~~: "if you don't write to her pretty soon she shall have to write to you" and its news

980 Grant ave
Rockford Ills
Aug 31st /95

My dear Mr Deane:—

I had intended to write you a long letter from Lauderdale before we left but I was knocked over by an attack of indigestion which for three or four days made ~~the~~ me the most forlorn, useless old fellow imaginable. We had a pleasant journey home – a rain the night before having laid the dust and freshened up the pastures. Arrived in Rockford Will undertook to see that our baggage was got up to the house – Walter to stop on the way and get "something for supper" – leaving the rest of us to come directly home – The house soon began to take on the air of being inhabited once more – We fancy that we live in a very plain, modest way the year 'round' - and we do for a few - but when I went out into the dining room this evening the table looked really elegant, How much our estimates of modes of living is a mere matter of comparison -

Your letters of farewell and welcome were as timely as they were grateful - It is pleasant to be so remembered - and the world would be the happier if more of us would make an effort to give expression to our kindly feelings

Thanks for the plates &c of Deanea. especially for the "artists proof" - This shall be mounted in my herbarium in fine style as most likely the only representation I will ever possess of your namesake

When I left home I gave the postman orders to not forward after me "heavy books and parcels" which he seems to have construed into an order not to forward anything but letters - So I have had in my herbarium room just about half-a-bushel of mail which

I have not found time as yet to *begin* to look at. As a consequence I have read your article on mounting plants though I have not touched the No of the Gazette in which it appeared. The directions are clear, full, explicit. I do not see how any one can fail to follow you with a perfect understanding of your methods. My mounting days are over but I am glad to be put on record by a competent judge as having practised good ways while I was about it. Only one comment or question occurred to me. You speak of mounting a dozen sheets before making the transfer to the pile under pressure. You also say ~~that~~ you do from 50 to 60 sheets of an evening. This gives a measure of time and 12 sheets would consume 1/4 or 1/5 of your time. Now I question whether after sheet No 12 was done, if you were to go back and examine sheet No 1, you would not find all the adhesions likely to be effected at all taken place. I should change to heavier pressure oftener and I would use a heavier weight

I should like to read E. F. Smith's paper. I suppose you have the manuscript – or has it been published? Coulter told me that he returned it – not refusing to publish but simply asking the writer to tone down some of his bitter expressions – which I fancy is just what Mr S. did not propose to do!

Please remember me most kindly to all the good friends. It was nearly 40 years ago that I attended my first meeting of the A A A S. at Springfield – Dr Gray. Dawson of Montreal Prof Peirce – Prof. Henry of the Smithsonian were the great lights then and they squelched the small lights I assure you with a very high tone air –

Ever sincerely
M S Bebb

980 [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible]
Sept 12th
'93

My dear Mr [illegible]

Prof [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] no objection to [illegible] [illegible] of [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] of [illegible] for the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] for [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] a [illegible] of [illegible]. I [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] for [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] of [illegible] to [illegible] [illegible] you. I [illegible] [illegible] your [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] I [illegible]

[illegible] of [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] with the [illegible] of the "[illegible] [illegible] of [illegible] [illegible]"

I found lots of things [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] of [illegible] – [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] the [illegible]. There is no [illegible] [illegible] – [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] the [illegible] [illegible] the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] of [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]. The [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] before to the [illegible] [illegible] of [illegible] [illegible] 5 [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] – I am thoroughly [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] the meeting of the N.N.W.A. But what fills me with astonishment is the statement that the [illegible] of the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] the [illegible] [illegible] of [illegible] at the meeting [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] of

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] of E. L. [illegible]

[illegible] of the [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] of [illegible]

[illegible] !

D^r. [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] admire the man for the [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] the [illegible] the [illegible]

[illegible] going to [illegible] in their

[illegible] And [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] the [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

It was [illegible] of the [illegible] of [illegible] at the [illegible] the [illegible] of [illegible] the [illegible] of [illegible] life [illegible] has only been [illegible] by the [illegible] and [illegible] of [illegible]

[illegible] to be [illegible] of it be [illegible] short of fulfilling any obligations [illegible] you to [illegible] all the [illegible] I [illegible] you may not [illegible] I take the liberty [illegible]

980 Grant Ave
Rockford Ills
Sept 24th/95—

My dear Mr Deane:—

I fully intended to write to you again before you left Wells but the days have drifted by unawares and I was surprised to find I was too late. I should have enjoyed a few days with you at such a place as I imagine your Aunt's to be above all things. You know I am a farmer by profession — never had any other trade — and a better calling and to this day I enjoy thoroughly going over a farm — *managed* by *somebody else*. Don't imagine that my knowledge of farming and farm life is any *dillettante* matter. I know it practically and well — and I would have been a farmer to the end of my days if the *bottom hadn't dropt out* of Western farming

Thanks for the Salicornia - How beautiful it is when the sun light shines through it! Like red coral! The plants have been greatly admired by friends who have called - and someway it happened that we had a perfect string of callers yesterday.

Well you are home again to-day I hope you return from your long vacation refreshed and built up for the next years work - After all there is a certain deep - wholesome satisfaction in getting back to the life and the work for which we stand in the community, One would not care to be on a vacation all the time!

Your terms of correspondence are very generous - I breathe the easier to know that I ~~must~~ need not feel obligated to "keep up my end of the evener"

I had a nice letter from Rand a few days ago - all about Mt Desert Asters new stations discovered for Subularia &c and best of all with only one brief reference to Dr Britton - that in the closing paragraph as follows "I am really becoming interested in plants again, I am rejoiced to say, and Dr Britton et al and their numerous schemes do not bother me very much"

I think if our good friend would study plants more closely at home during the winter he would find it easier to keep in this mood. Sometimes I am obliged to examine carefully some ~~mos~~ most wretchedly prepared specimens - I hate the looks of such stuff and if I stopped with looking at it I should stop altogether - but when the flowers and fruit are soaked up in hot water they are just as beautiful and interesting as any and all at once perchance my dingy specimen may them into something of exceptional interest -

In looking over some undetermined Willows from the Arnold Arboretum Herb I came across a specimen of S. Wardi from Tennessee - the only one I ever saw from that state. The collectors name G. W. Hubbard was given and "Tennessee" without further specification of locality - I have no recent issue of the Naturalists Directory - Will you please see if you can find Mr Hubbards address and give it to me. I hope he is some local botanist for I should "dearly love" as the girls say to get more of ~~that~~ Salix Wardi for my own herbarium -

Kindest regards to Mrs Deane

Yours ever

M S Bebb

Sept 26/95

Dear Mr Deane:-

The enclosed letter will interest you - Please return it at your convenience as I wish to send it to Mother.

I will send you the promised bulletin when it is received.

Nice family letters from all the Chicago members of the family. - Do me sights of good!

Cordially

Bell

After Nov 2d my P. O.
address will be San Bernardino
Cal. Hope to be able to
write you a letter before
I leave - We take the Santa Fe
Limited at Chicago Saturday
6. P. M. Yours sincerely
M. S. Bebb

BOSTON, MASS. STA E REC'D OCT 30 4 AM 95

POSTAL CARD - ONE CENT.

United States of America.

THIS SIDE IS FOR THE ADDRESS ONLY.

ROCKFORD
OCT 4
10 AM

Mr Walter Deane
9 Brewster St
Cambridge
Mass

Oct 28th/96

My dear Mr Deane

Confinement to the house in consequence of chilly and inclement weather has told very unfavorably on my strength and it has been decided that we must leave for S. Calif at the earliest practicable date. We therefore, as I informed you this morning by postal, plan to leave Chicago No 2 - only three days on the road to Santa Barbara. I ~~[illegible]~~ wish I could write you a long letter. This is a spurt. Dont the handwriting look steady. Whiskey my dear boy - that is all

Yours sincerely
M S Bebb

R, FRIDAY, DECEMBER

FAMOUS MAN IS DEAD.

M. S. Bebb Passes Away at San Bernardino, Cal.

BRILLIANT LIGHT IN SCIENCE

News of His Demise Received Yesterday—One of the Recognized Authorities of the World in the Study of Botany.

A telegram was received yesterday afternoon which conveyed the news of the death of M. S. Bebb, in California. The message was received by H. H. Waldo, and gave no particulars. Mr. and Mrs. Bebb went to California in October, where on the sunny Pacific slope Mr. Bebb hoped to improve his health. He was suffering with tubercular trouble, and had been in failing health for several years. It was upon the advice of his physician that he went to California, and with his wife he had been stopping at San Bernardino, where they have friends While Mr. Bebb did not have a wide acquaintance in this city, although he had lived here many years, he was very highly esteemed. That he was not better known to the city at large was due to his very retiring nature. He had friends in number, but he confined his confidence to a comparative few, and by them he was greatly admired. Because of Mr. Bebb's shrinking modesty it might well be said that few people knew of the wonderful talents he possessed. No more learned man ever made his home in Rockford, in fact he was an intellectual giant. Mr. Bebb was a native of Ohio and a member of a prominent family. His father was Governor Bebb, who had a conspicuous part in the early development of Ohio, and who was the chief executive of the state for a number of years. Mr. Bebb received a college education and chose a vocation for which he was eminently fitted, the field of scientific research. He was known here as a botanist, but the great majority of Rockford people and even a number of his friends were not familiar with his reputation in this line. It certainly could never be learned from the man himself. He was one of the recognized authorities of the world in the study of botany. His correspondence reached around the globe, and in his work he was associated with the scientists of the age. His correspondence was something immense, and the letters he received from every land from the leading scholars came to him as one whose authority was of the highest. He contributed largely to scientific journals, his writings in this direction being quite voluminous. While he possessed such fame in general botany, in his own specialty he was pre eminent. This specialty was willows. In this he had not a peer in the whole world. He was frequently consulted by the leading colleges of the land on this topic, and any new discovery, including the government research, was generally submitted to Mr. Bebb. In this way he occupied such a position that the city might well be proud of him. Dr. Frank Kimball was probably his nearest friend in this city. Said he last evening: "Of the older school of scientists, which included Prof. Gray and other famous intellects, he was an associate, and he was the peer of any of them."

In other fields Mr. Bebb was a man of wonderful attainments. He possessed such rare mental acumen, such qualities of penetration into the knottiest problems in so many sciences that he commanded the highest respect of everyone who met him. Of late he was engaged in preparing a work on his speciality in botany, which was to be added to a general volume now in preparation, and which is intended to be a work of the era in that field. None of his friends here is able to state how far he had progressed in his labors which he was so eager to finish. Mr. Bebb was a man of the highest character. He was so even tempered, so wholesome, so worthy of the homage to be paid a true man, that his influence in that way, as in the department of science, will be felt for years to come. His home life was beautiful. He was very fond of music, and lived happily and contentedly, enjoying the gentler things in life. That he was not better appreciated might perhaps have been his own fault. He was so excessively modest that he disliked even the title of professor. or Mrs. J. B. Hench.

Mr. Bebb was twice married Besides the widow ~~eight~~ nine children survive. They are Edward, Robert, Walter, Arthur, Will, Mattie, Frank and Mrs. Anna Mason, who resides in New York. Frank is the only member of the family in the city and is a student at the high school. Additional word is expected today relating to the funeral arrangements. It is probable that the remains will be brought here for interment. The news of Mr. Bebb's death is received with deep regret in the little circle here in which he was so much admired. His brother, Edward Bebb, died a little over a year ago.

Michael Schuck Bebb was born on December 23, 1833, in Butler County in southwestern Ohio where his grandfather, Edward Bebb, a Welshman, had been one of the first white settlers in the fertile Miami valley. His father was a teacher and then a successful lawyer in Hamilton, the county town to which the family removed in 1835, and in 1846 was elected governor of Ohio. The well-kept garden surrounding the Bebb mansion in Hamilton was stocked with flowering plants and fruit trees, and here, while still a boy, the future botanist acquired his first knowledge of plants and, without the aid of a text-book, learned with effort the rudiments of the science from a copy of Torrey's report upon the Flora of New York which had been sent to his father with other New York State reports by a political friend. In 1850 the family moved to a large tract of land which Governor Bebb had purchased in the Rocky River valley in northern Illinois, near the present town of Fountaindale. Mr. Bebb's love of botany was then increased by the acquisition of a few more botanical books and by an acquaintance with Dr. George Vasey which began five or six years later, and was still farther stimulated by a visit to New England where he associated with several men of science. During the War of Secession he served the Government in Washington, and then, returning to Illinois, purchased the paternal homestead at Fountaindale and devoted himself to botany and especially to the study of Willows. The largest and most complete collection of these plants which has ever been made in the United States was planted at this time by Mr. Bebb but, unfortunately, was destroyed a few years ago, when he took up his residence in Rockford, Illinois. Since the year 1874, when he described his first Willow in The American Naturalist, all the collections of Willows made in North America have been studied by him; he has described the California species in Brewer & Watson's Botany of California, the southwestern species collected by Rothrock in the sixth volume of Wheeler's Reports, the Colorado species in Coulter's Manual of the Botany of the Rocky Mountain Region, and the species of the eastern states in the last edition of Gray's Manual, and has contributed to botanical journals many papers upon the American species of the genus.

The specimens which are figured in this work have all been selected by Mr. Bebb, and I take this opportunity to acknowledge my great indebtedness for the advice and assistance which he has freely given me during the last fifteen years.

Dec. 22. '93.

My dear Mr. Deane,

We are glad to answer any questions we can for you - Mother talks while I write — M.B.

So far as dates are concerned we may not be able to give them very correctly. Mr. Babb had no memory for dates not even being able to remember the birth-days of his children.—

1.- His grandfather came to this country from Wales.- before leaving was

2.- Mr. Babb's father.- William Babb married Sarah Schuck - of German parentage.-

3.- Very near Hamilton. Ohio -
I used to hear them speak of living on the "Dry Fork"

4- He married his first wife (Katherine Hancock) in Barre Mass. in 1857 - and I think it was at that time - he went to Cambridge.
He made his second and last visit to Cambridge in 1873.

engaged to Margaret Roberts = There of course was little communication between the two countries at that time - she heard nothing from him - and her parents believing him to have deserted her - persuaded her to marry a young clergyman = after their marriage they sailed for America = the vessel in which they sailed having had on a previous voyage a cargo of copperas & the water was poisoned by it: - many of the passengers died - among them the husband of Margaret Roberts - Landing in Philadelphia she made her way to the home of her brother in Johnstown Penn. - There met her first lover who was on his way to Wales to claim her They were then married - walked to Pittsburg and floated down the Ohio -

I have no means of knowing about the year - I only know Mr. Bebb's father was born in Dec. 1802 -

5.- He went to Washington to take a position in the pensions office = ~~He~~ He went in 1860-

6. His father, being in Washington too, not wishing to return to Illinois- offered the homestead for sale- and Mr. B. H. being fond of the country- always wishing to live the life of a country gentleman- bought it- not being independent financially endeavored to make his living there from.-

7. He married Anna E. Carpenter of Providence- R. I. in

He possessed a great deal of skill as a draughtsman.- His willow herbarium ~~bore~~ bears witness of it.-

9. His first publication was the willows of California- so far as I know.-

10. About ten years ago he had an attack of pleurisy from which he never fully recovered-

The funeral took place Friday Dec- 13-1895- and the body was laid to rest- in the west side

Feb 19 - 1867. His second time he was married

8. He started on his willow work about twenty one years ago - As he already has said in his article - The number of willows growing near him Fountaindale Ill, to be particularly interested in the work - At about that time Dr. Gray desired him to work up the willows of California and that so near as I can remember he seems to have been his first real work on willows -

Where the willows grew was a bit of lowland lying along a creek and undisturbed by cultivation: and while he occupied the place carefully ~~guarded~~ guarded -

The Salicetum was composed of rare and varying forms of our native willows which were sent him by correspondents and also a fine collection of European willows sent by Dr. Hooker from Kew

cemetery here at Rockford.
If we have not gone
fully enough into
details - we will be glad
to know where what more
write is wanted, and
give you more.-

dictated Anna E. Bebb.

I found the enclosed
in Mr. Bebb's pocket
among the letters he
had taken to
California hoping to
to answer -

Rockford
Oct 28/95

Dear Mr Deane

The Doctor gives us every encouragement so far as the organic trouble is concerned - but what Mr Bebb needs now more than any thing else is a complete change of climate and occupation. He has done a great deal more botanical work in the last four weeks than he ought to have done - but it came to him in a way that seemed to imply a personal obligation and he could not refuse.

I have always sympathized with my husband in his botanical pursuits but for once I am so impatient I can not tell you - to have them stop completely.

Mattie is in Chicago - at 6849 Stewart Ave. Station O - very homesick at times; but in the main happy in her work.

My kindest regards to Mrs Deane and yourself.

Yours Sincerely
Anna E Bebb

for sale? Was Mr. Bebb quite independent at this time?

7. When did he marry &c?

8. I want to know just when & how he started in his Willow work. I want to know more of that "bit of prairie where the wild growth of Willows flourished"? Also about his Salicetum which he planted, and his skill as a draughtsman.

I wouldn't tire you for anything, my dear Mrs. Bebb, but what you can tell me of these things will be most useful. I want all the facts I can especially about his willow

---

Please return this Letter

9 Brewster St.,
Cambridge Mass.
Dec. 18-1895.

My dear Mrs. Bebb:

I was very much gratified to receive this evening your husband's sketch of himself, and letters from your sons, Edwin & William — I have read everything with the deepest interest and I can't be too grateful to you all for helping me so materially. Many questions will come up which I shall ask you from time to time, and

I hope I shall not intrude too much upon your kindness - Your husband's sketch makes me so want to know more -

1. Mr. Bebb says "My grandfather floated down the Ohio River with his young wife, in a flat boat the year after the first settlement at Marietta. He had been a pioneer for 3 years before, opening up his farm" &c

~~Does that~~ mean that he brought his young wife down the river to his farm in 1789? Marietta was settled in 1788. Where did he get his wife?

2. Whom did Mr. Bebb's father Wm Bebb marry?

3. Do you know in what part of Butler Co. this farm & house were?

4. In what year did Mr Bebb come East? It was some time before the War. What induced him to come?

5. What took him to Washington during the War? What position did he hold? When did he go and what did he do?

6. How was the old homestead in 1867 offered

the Feb. Gazette and I
shall have a month
before I must hand it
in. If you feel too
tired to write these answers
perhaps Miss Mattie might
write what you dictate.
I dont know whether
Miss Mattie is still with
you – I shall also
ask when the funeral
took place and where
the body was laid to
rest — Give my best
love to all ~

Very sincerely
Your friend
Walter Deane.

work -
9 When was his first publication on Salix?
When you write, will you please return this letter, and number each answer - I can grasp it better -

It will be a great help to me, for who knows the life, the pleasures and the trials of our dear Mr. Bebb's life better than you?
10- When did he begin to suffer from ill health?

But I will not ask any more questions now,
My sketch will be in

Rockford
Dec 18 '95

My Dear Mr Deane,

First of all let me thank you for the kindly, loving words you have spoken of him who was so dear to his family, and the sympathy you have shown us in our great sorrow. For almost a year Mr Bebb has been failing in health.

Before that he had

---

very peacefully passed on to his rest. His mind seemed to be dwelling on his beloved willows to the last, for in the wandering which came in the last few hours he said to me that he wished he was in the corner with Salix Cordata. As one of his sons has well said, "He felt that his father was now face to face with more of his botanical friends than he ever enjoyed in life, and untrammeled by the limitations of earthly things was enjoying the fields and

called during the
summer and autumn
but this time there was
no improvement, so that
when I started for Cal-
ifornia it was with a
very sad heart and
great anxiety for we
all felt that there
was little if any hope
of his return. Still we
felt that the journey
must be taken if only
to gratify him. For he
[illegible] so courageous
and hopeful and took
his work with him
in anticipation of

writing some more on
the work which now
remains uncompleted.

His mind was just
as clear to the last and
though he never took
up his pen but once
after reaching California
yet he dictated letters
which were full of hopes
and plans for the future.

He stood the journey
better than I anticipated
and for a time seemed
a little stronger and
then grew weaker and
weaker but without
pain or suffering of any
kind

lovers of the heavenly things with them.

I presume by this time you have received the little sketch which he wrote out for Prof Sargent last summer. If there are any more items which we can give you we shall be glad to do so for we feel that it is fitting that you should have this tribute to him.

Perhaps you knew he was twice married, his first wife dying in

1864. We were married
in Providence Feb 19th
1867. There are three
children two boys and
one girl by the first
wife and 4 boys and
two girls of ours. Six
boys of which the father
was so proud and
manly boys they are
but I think Mattie
was the pride of his
heart and poor child
she is sadly afflicted
We had all enjoyed
my husbands correspondence
so much and
felt such an interest
in Botanical matters
that we shall feel
that we can never
give it up. without
sorrow.

Sincerely Yours

Mrs Anna E Bebb

Chicago Ill. Dec. 18th. 1895

Walter Deane

Dear Friend:

Your wish to write of our dear father, is of course much appreciated by all of us, for we feel that one who loved him as you did will give him a tribute that will be a comfort to us. I read his notes on his life, which brother Will will send to you, and it seemed to me that the interest that might center in his "school for the study of Willows" was not as fully set forth as it might be.

In the early seventies I remember his interest in the willows begining from the discoveries he made in the willow patch as we called it; the patch I should think was four or five acres in extent and one mass of what became his favorit study. I can well remember his talking of the hybrids and how interested he became in them. Thus the circumstance of the patch being near him determined him in the study of his future years. You may have from his own pen all this talls you of his first start in the willows.

Yours very truly

Edwin Bebb

Lauderdale Wis.
Aug. 4. 1895

My dear Mr. Dean:-

Do you know that I commenced a number of letters to you last winter but as I did want to send you a good one and was so conscious that my attempts fell far short - I never mailed them -

My mother has told me how when a child I would stand up in a chair and tell the smaller children about me, using appropriate

you that: he and mother are seriously considering going to California next winter - We are so in hopes that the wicked disease can be arrested - The cold he took when he came from the south seems to have left his lungs in an exhausted condition - and the power is so weakened that the exercise necessary to keep up his general health is almost impossible - The boys with their hands at his back - help him up the inclines and on the gestures, that botany was the greatest thing in the world -- and I should no doubt have defined a botanist as a man with very superior intelligence: and as I have had nothing to shake my belief I still hold them somewhat in awe. Yet my love and admiration for a few that I have known has taken me nearer to them than I ever dared hope to be:

To you, my dear Mr. Deane we all feel a sense of gratefulness for bringing so much happiness and pleasure into Father's life, now that he is so weak as to enjoy but little that causes any physical exertion on his part. Your letters always cheer him - and I shall never forget his face as it looked when he came from the south last winter: and I took up shortly after entering the house: yours and Mr. Rand's letters welcoming him home. It touched him and was sweet to all of us. -

You perhaps do not know how very frail Father is this summer: We are very anxious: He perhaps has told

time he can make
his way quite well -
The day I came up
here - three weeks ago
he walked perhaps a
half mile to meet me.
knowing of course he
would ride back - but
I have not known
of his going any distance since.
He lies down excepting
when he eats and
rides - and lately he
has spent quite a
little time in the
morning writing on
his "autobiography"
Do you know that I
plan now to study

Father gave me your message -
If you had sent me what I
really deserved I should then
have felt we were nearer even
but when any one is so good to
me as you threatened to be - I
want in some small way to keep
up my end so I really will send you
this letter - just as it is -
Then I hope you will write to me. -
It will not make me feel guilty
With kind love to Mrs. Deant
I am Very sincerely your friend
Mattie Babb

at a kindergarten
training school in
Chicago next winter.-
I enjoyed so much
my work last winter-
though I had to do
it as I could for I
was a housekeeper too.-
I was at least able to
realize the extent of
the study and shall
go into it next winter.
willing to begin at the
bottom and profit
by a thorough ground-
-ing in main
principles.- then I
shall attempt and
hope to grow.-
I have just finished
reading Spencers "Education".- in one
way a preliminary to my studies.-
and in another a bringing
together in logical order. the
disconnected theory I gathered
last year.-
Now I am playing.-
Perhaps the confession at the
beginning of my letter was good
for me.- for I have taken a
great deal of pleasure from sitting
here.- writing and thinking of
you and Mrs. Deane.-

Rock ford Ills.
Dec 6th 95

My Dear Mr. Dean.

For fear that you have not already been informed and pursuant with a wish of my Sister Mattie I drop you this line to say that my Father died at San Bernardino yesterday.

Poor Mattie, Fathers favorite child is heart broken and I do so wish that so kind and dear a friend as you have been might be near to comfort her but distance interferes.

The telegram is the only news that I have but I will write you more in a few days

Very Sincerely Yours

Wm Bebb

980 Grant Ave
Rockford

Dec 16th. 1875

My Dear Mr. Dean.

Mother desires, pursuant with your request, that I send you the enclosed sketch of Fathers life which he made last Summer.

He wrote it by request of Prof Sargent. to accompany the work on Arborescent Willows that he did this summer.

I also enclose Prof Sargents draft, that you may not in your selection to closely follow his sketch.

The clipping from a local paper may perhaps help you some.

Mother, Mattie and all are

resting as well as is possible with the shadow of so great a sorrow hanging over us.

Your kind words are a comfort to us as they have always been to Father and we hope that they may continue to come as of old.

Very Truly Yours

Wm. Bebb

980 Grant Ave
Rockford. Ills.

My dear Mr Dean

I write on a seperate sheet that it may not reach Mothers eyes to say to you that in giving a sketch of Fathers life if you would pay a tribute to Mother we children would appreciate it

We feel that to her constant devotion and self sacrifice as much as to his own ability was Fathers success due. you can not realize as we children do how much she has endured for his sake and I feel that the science owes her something, for she spoke through Father.

She not only watched over him as a child, reared the large family of nine children, did most of the housework alone and furnished the capital for Father to carry on his work but besides helped him in his botanical work - always encouraging him and interesting herself in his studies - How few people really know what Father and Mother have done for the science

For Father ever since I have known him has been working for it. He gave his labors - he gave his means and he gave his life - He died a poor man, but the inheritance he has left us is one that can not be estimated with worldly gold."

I suppose he has written you much of his home life but someday I would like to tell you it from the stand point of the child.

Yours sincerely
Wm Bebb

Rockford. Ills
Dec 26. 1893

My Dear Mr Dean.

From your questions we infer that perhaps the notice you are writing is to be more, than the brief sketch that we expected it to be and consequently Mother, Mattie and myself thought to add some items which may be of interest to you even if they are of no help in your article.

Father has written very little in his sketch of his life here in Rockford and as you can perhaps imagine it was one of the most important and pleasant epochs in his life

He was much courted by the influential society people of the town but due to his retiring nature and finer sensibilities shrunk from their advances and lived a very quiet and retired life surrounded, however, by a few intimate friends.

In the town he had but one real gentleman friend but numbered among his acquaintances several ladies - These were all of the true and trusted kind and mourn his loss almost as members of the family.

He never entered into public life except to serve a term of eight years on the school board and an equal length of time on the library board.

His disposition was such that I am sure he would have preferred to not undertake these tasks, but from a sense of duty he entered into them with all his energy and soul; and I think to him as much as to any one man is due the present standing of the public schools of Rockford - second to none in the state they now stand on the accredited list of many of the eastern colleges.

It was during his administration that a movement was started by which a new and central high school was built and equipped, — many of the old ward schools torn down and replaced by better lighted structures, — new teachers were engaged, — corporal punishment abolished — examinations not required of pupils above a certain standing, and many other radical changes were made.

On the library board he worked hard also.

The garden surrounding the home here while not extensive has been a source of interest to us all. It is his creation solely, unaided except by the members of the family.

Besides the numerous hardy shrubs and perennials, all of the pretty native shrubs and plants have been introduced into the rock work and appropriate places.
It also includes a collection from the Arnold Arboretum and others.

In his botanical work you are no doubt as familiar from his writings as it is possible to tell you.
however, I will add.-
He was ~~so~~ careful in his mounting almost to a fault and I am sure I never saw more carefully and beautifully mounted specimens than his are. They are all on the usual herbarium paper - in marked genus covers and encased in walnut cabinets about three by five feet in dimensions - There are sixteen of these cases in all.
His general collection includes nearly all

of the species listed in the old Gray's manual with valuable additions from Cape of Good Hope and Europe - It numbers we estimate about 50,000 specimens besides the Salix

His willows are contained in his cabinet which are in a convenient spot separate from the rest

you no doubt are aware that Father was a member of the Philadelphia, Buffalo and Chicago Academies of Science He was elected a fellow of the A.A.A.S. of the Botanical section but from the expense incurred was unable to join.

He has been seriously hampered all these years by a lack of funds. We have tried to imagine what he might have done if he had only possessed the means to travel - to make collections - meet other botanists and all the while be free

from the worry of where the food and
clothing for himself and wife and
nine little ones was to come from

You know of his little microscope that
he has done so much work with?
It is such a one as would cost in the
market today about five dollars.
The ordinary high school boy would have
felt insulted if asked to work with it
and yet all of his fine drawings were
made by the aid of this instrument and
an ordinary pocket lens
He at one time did a great deal of
work and made many notes on the
Jassidae but never published the
results of his investigations.
He told me last summer that there
probably was no man living that
knew as much about the group
as he did.

Besides his ~~study~~ study and collections

in Botany he at one time made a
study of Conchology and has stored away
quite a sizeable collection -
although he made no pretension to
knowledge of the subject he was a
geologist of no small ability -
Lepidoptera. Coleoptera. in fact in every
branch of natural history he was more
a less familiar with.
How he could accurately translate Latin
French and German descriptions,
without ever studying to any extent
any one of these languages was
always a mystery to me.
His was a master mind!
His powerful intellect was a wonder
and amazement to us all and
yet he was the simplest, kindest
father that children ever knew
As I said before he gave his labo-

and life to the science but he did not neglect his family and although he died a comparativly poor man he has left us an inheritance which can not be estimated by worldly gold.

Mother has answered the questions you sent as fully as she was able. Father never told us very much about his antecedents and never said very much about his first wife and so perhaps you can excuse any seeming deficiency of knowledge.

Yours Very Truly

Conn Belt

3 In 1859 The whole family left
Fountaindale - Father moved to Southern
Illinois. (Marion County) where he lived
a few months and then moved to
Springfield Ills. - He lived in S-
until 1860 when he went to Washington.
His father & Mother went to Knoxville
Tenn. where grandfather (his father)
practiced law. He was also interested
in a Welsh colony which they were
endeavoring to found on the
mountains of Eastern Tennessee.
At the outbreak of the war they were
obliged to abandon their ~~a~~ home
losing everything, - all their personal
property. They then moved to
Washington - Lincoln giving grandfather
a position in the patent office

The Wilmington Savings Fund Society.

S. E. Cor. Ninth and Market Streets.

WM. M. CANBY, President.
THOS. H. SAVERY, Vice President.
W. J. ELLISON, Sec'y. and Treas.

Wilmington, Del., Dec. 26 1895

My dear Mr. Deane

The first I knew of our lamented Bebb was while he was still residing in Illinois. We made an exchange or two of specimens and then he came to Washington where his father's family was and soon obtained a position in the Pension Office. While in Washing his first wife died. I think he was married twice afterwards. In 1863 he came to see me and I took him to my botanical haunts in New Jersey and down the Delaware peninsula.

I have a great many of his letters written in the sixties and later and these would give you much information which I cannot now give. Shall I send them to you?

He was, as you know, a most enthusiastic botanist and a most lovable man; and laying the willows aside, he did more in systematic botany than most people knew. All was freely given to others and was not always acknowledged

Thanks for your kind inquiries. I am pretty well and very old. I hope you are flourishing in every way. With best wishes for the new year I remain

Yours truly

LAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY.

Lake Forest, Ill., December 23, 1895.

My dear Deane:

I know very little about Mr. Bebb's herbarium excepting that for years he has done little or nothing to it excepting in the Salix portion. This part of it he has kept up to the end, and in my judgment it stands as the most important collection of the genus in this country. I have not seen his most recent MSS. on Salix, but his wife told me that he had been working at it all his spare time and had a great many notes. She said that there were only a few points that he wished still to clear up. Aside from his formal notes his herbarium sheets are jotted over with his opinions in such a way that they will be very clear to his editor. This final revision, you understand, was for the proposed "Flora of North America."

The funeral was a very quiet one, conducted at the house with only a few relatives and friends present. Since Mr. B's. removal from Fountaindale to Rockford he was in bad health, and being of a very retiring disposition he lived too quietly to become largely acquainted in Rockford. Those who were present expressed the warmest admiration for the man, not only on his social side, but also on his intellectual side. I do not know what disposition is to be made of his herbarium. His family said that they wished to consult me later with reference to it. I have in mind that their purpose has not been formulated.

Yours sincerely,

John M. Coulter.

Dictated.

Olive E.
Wadsworth

San Bernardino Cal.
9 Dec. 1895

My dear Sir!—

I am sorry that the first occasion that I have to write to you should be a sad one. But it is my task to communicate to you, at the request of Mrs Bebb, the news of the death of your friend, her late husband, which occurred at this place on the morning of the fifth of the present month. It is some consolation to be able to add that his last days were painless, except for the weariness of exhaustion, and that the final parting was calm and peaceful. He enjoyed till the last few hours the entire possession of his mental faculties, and then his mind wandered from the things about him and the occasional sentences that he uttered indicated that his thoughts had gone back to his favorite studies. "I have been over in the corner, studying Salix cordata," he said to his wife.

He received throughout his sickness the devoted care of his wife, and they were with friends who were glad to do all in their power to make them forget that they were strangers in a strange land.

Mrs Bebbs eldest son came on for her, and they started last night for Chicago, where they will arrive on the morning of the twelfth. The interment will be at Rockford.

I am,
Very truly yours
Saml. B. Parish.

Mr. Walter Deane
5 Brewster Place
Cambridge, Mass.

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE.
(BUSINESS OFFICE: SALEM, MASS.)
PEABODY MUSEUM, HARVARD UNIVERSITY.
F. W. PUTNAM,
Permanent Secretary.

CAMBRIDGE, MASS, Dec.24,'95

Mr. Walter Deane,

My dear Sir:-

Professor Putnam wishes me to give you the information that the first Springfield meeting was held in the year 1859.

Respectfully yours,

F. H. Mead,

Secretary to Professor Putnam.

I must now come back to
a visit in [illegible]. Mr Renwick
thought he went to Washington
in the summer of [illegible].
My brother [illegible]
name was Elizabeth
Williams. I should like
very much to have some
of the copies of the [illegible].
I saw your [illegible] that
I [illegible] to the [illegible] to
[illegible] ever there? I have
seen much [illegible]
[illegible] in [illegible]
[illegible] letters of Dr Grays
to [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] of the two [illegible]
[illegible] that the [illegible].
I wish so much you could

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

The [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
that [illegible] to [illegible]

to have the Academic
part of his life taken
away. [illegible] I [illegible] felt he
remained with all the
Correspondence. Mr. Cobb
never to my knowledge
was troubled with
Indigestion. Indeed
there are no letters from
him to be found. In a
note which Mr. Cobb had
written, shows that he
was to send a package
of letters to [illegible]
Dr. Gray. You may have
known that as a boy he
studied deeper into the
subject he felt very much
dissatisfied with Indian
treatment. Of the [illegible]
[illegible] in regard to
the claims which have
troubled you, as I was
unable to definitely
decide about them I
sent word to Chicago
where Mr. Cobb's sister
lives and who is the
only member of his
family now living
to see if I could find
out what you wanted
to know. He was first
married in the spring
of 67 in Barre Mass. and

Rockford

Jan 3 '96

My Dear Mr Deane.

Thank you very much for the kindly remembrance of me and mine.

I am very much pleased with the memorial to my Dear Husband and feel glad to send such a tribute to his friends. I find my self so often asking how he would be pleased with things and I am sure he would have no cause to find fault with this. The picture is very fine and we are all so glad of it.

In a letter from Prof Dudley of Leland Stanford University he speaks of the "fraternity of botanists." I think I have realized it more fully in the past few months than ever before. and I feel so grateful for all the kind words that have been written me

Mr Bebb was a strong believer in immortality. and felt that the higher the life he lived here the higher the life hereafter. I can but feel that his life beyond must be a glorious one.

I wish very much there was something of my Husbands you would like to have. Either letters from old correspondents.

The only criticism I would make on the article, if you will allow me to make one is, that you gave too much credit to Mrs M L B. –

I have been looking over the Herbarium and it has many many pleasant associations When we came from Washington but few of the plants in the hall, were mounted and I helped to arrange them for mounting, it was my first lesson in that work. There are many plants we collected together, walking miles over the prairie for an Eastern girl could not but be enthusiastic over the beautiful western flora. There are curios which he gathered in bunches and brought home when I was recovering from an illness in [illegible], and I lying in the bed helped him to straighten and arrange

One autumn we went alone to Lansdale and gathered shrubs and herbs for the garden and plants to press. His last collection was made in Florida and he seemed as enthusiastic about it as a boy. Some of them he mounted but others still remain in his portfolio as he left them. It will almost break my heart to have the herbarium go out from the home & still if it is the best thing for it. I should prefer to see it go to Harvard as I know his sympathies were more with that school of botany than any other botanical Gardens or some thing that might serve as a remembrance. Does Salix rostrata now Bebbiana grow near you. While familiar with the names of millions I do not know but few of them growing. We want to plant it in the cemetery lot and I fear that I shall have to depend on friends for cuttings. Perhaps you can tell me from where I could get them.

With kind regards to Mrs Deane and renewed thanks for all your kindness to me

Sincerely Mrs M. S. Bebb

Rockford
May 26/96

My Dear Mr Deane.

Thank you very much for the trouble you took to get and send me the cuttings. I have put them in a flower pot and will make them grow if possible.

It seems as if we were in midsummer. The month of May has been so warm and the flowering of the shrubs and plants is fully three weeks earlier than usual. Uncle Mills cares Mrs Bebbs garden beds as usual, but we miss his care of it very much.

I left the manuscript for the present thinking that when I went into Chicago I would see Dr Coulter and talk with him about it.

The Mr Bebb you mention was Mr Edward Bebb my husbands only brother, and six years his senior. He died in Rockford in Jan 1875. With kind regards to Mrs Deane.

Sincerely Mrs A S Bebb

Chicago. Give my
kindest regards to
Mrs Deane

Yours respectfully
Mrs M. S. Bebb

Riverside
Jan 26-1896

My Dear Mr Deane.

I am so glad that you could write the sketch of Mr Bebbs life for I feel that no one of his Botanical friends better knew or appreciated him. While fond of his work it was after all his home his family and friends that were the great delight of his life and it grew stronger with years. When away from us if only for a short time he wrote back to the family every day. It is pleasant to feel his influence all through the home but there is such a vacant place that all feel sad who enter here. I thank you very much for your kind letters I appreciate them very much. While in California I met Miss [illegible] who told us that it was due to your help and encouragement that she had become a Botanist. She was living this winter at Redlands and collecting plants. Mattie spent last Sunday with me but is back at her work now. She is at 6347 Stewart Ave

Millboro Va.
Dec 8. '95

My Dear Mr Deane.

Accept my warmest thanks for your Christmas remembrance. I think often of my husbands old friends, and the sight of their familiar hand writing is a pleasure to me. Our Christmas festivities are not the same as in years past. and this time I have deserted the old home to come East and pass the Holiday season in New York State with my daughter, and I have enjoyed with the little folks their merrie Christmas The country in Northern New York is not so pleasant as in summer but the mountains remain as grand as ever and has a contrast with our level plains a great delight to look upon. I trust that your health remains good, that you had a merrie Christmas, and that a happy New Year will be yours. With kind regards to Mrs Deane

Respectfully

Mrs M. J. Davis

EDWIN BEBB
ATTORNEY AT LAW
ROOM 36, 115 MONROE STREET

CHICAGO March 4th.1896.

My dear Mr.Deane,

The copy of the memorial of my father that you sent me I shall cherish becauseof the love you have born toward him.I like your tribute to him very much indeed .I can hardly imagine it being improved on.Your selections from his letters are very happy,and illustrative of traits of character,which to us, his children, are very dear. During the time of the financial troubles which you mention there was no money to expend on Christmas gifts,but with his own hands he made for each one of the children then in the family a gift that was as good or better than the purchased ones.The one I received, I have still,alittle tool box covered with sheep skin,it is priceless to me now.Silver and gold cannot buy what is there represented. Thus love never let Christmas fail us. Some day I shall hope to see the dear friend of my father,either here,or in Boston.

Sincerely yours

Edwin Bebb

1.

- 980 Grant Ave
December The Eighteenth
1895

Father loved you my dear Mr. Deane.- You brightened the years of his acquaintance with you so much by your frequent happy letters and unexpected "thoughtfulnesses"
It brought you very near to us all.-

I am so sorry you never visited us in our home - here.- You can hardly realize what our father was

to Mr. and Mrs. Parish for the tender loving care they showed father and for the aid and sympathy so unsparingly given our mother - Mother said her own could not have done more.-

Dear Mr. Parish - when father passed away he picked two calla blossoms and placed them upon his breast.- I shall love him always for it.-
It was so hard for us to have father still a botanist - unable to look at the herbarium or to talk botany. - Think of

to us all - His beautiful character was our inspiration - to meet his approval our constant aim! -

Dr. Kerr, our minister, said to my aunt yesterday: "Some one told me not one of Mr. Bebb's boys had a bad habit; neither smoked nor drank - and that he never told them not to" - No - father never that I can remember told us not to do - He simply placed confidence in us - and it was hard to disappoint him. -

My close companionship with my father was very dear to me. - I was always homesick away from him - Now I feel as though I should be homesick all my life. - I only hope - the influence of his precious memory can help to make me see more clearly the real meaning of life - and live up to it -

Mrs. Parish said: he told her in a whisper a few days before he left - "Life is service" - I know he realized how well she fulfilled one of his favorite "truths". -

We shall all never cease to be grateful

how hard it must have
been for your Father =
Mother is so brave and
strong for us - and I
hope ~~our~~ love can
comfort her = Father
loved her so devotedly -

Father's tired worn body
was laid tenderly away
Last Friday afternoon -
Every thing was done that
loving hearts could prompt:
His six sons bore the body
from the house - It was
hard but so tender. -

Father enjoyed his
family life and work
so much that we regret
he could not have lived

at least eight years more.-
He would have been only sixty two next Monday-
yet as you say "God's ways are not our ways". How firmly Father believed the higher the life lived here- the higher the life hereafter.-

We would like so much to hear from you Mr. Deane when you in your busy life can find a little time for us.- Mother and I are both interested in you and to anything in the botanical world is always interesting to mother.-
Mother, I know has written to you.- probably some things I have repeated; but I wanted to write to you to night: It is comforting to me to do what Father was always proud I might have the privilege of doing-

Please give my kindest love to Mrs. Deane- Sincerely your friend

Mattie Bebb

6340 Stewart Ave.
Mar. 8. 1896

My dear Mr. Deane

I cannot realize as I look over the pages of your article that Father's life has been lived. - That a sketch of his life work can be given - We are all pleased, very much pleased - with what you have so feelingly so truly so well written - and glad that you did it. - For your name

associated with father
brings to all of us -
pleasant, happy recollections
The description of one
of our Christmas
mornings I never
heard before - It was
just exactly like us -
We feel grateful to you
for the sweet true
tribute you paid to
mother - Father would
have done it: -

I shall always prize
the copy you sent me -
Mother sends love to Mrs.
Deane - Very Sincerely
your friend Mattie B.

My brother Arthur has just come in and he wants me to ask you if you would be so kind as to send him as you did to me your article with wife's signature - He would be very much pleased to have it

Arthur E. Bull
1742-102nd Street
Chicago
Ills.

M. B.

980 Grant-Ave.-
July-2-1897

My dear Mr. Deane.-

You always spoke of your mother with such tenderness and affection. that I always said that I could just feel her motherliness.- As Miss Bryan. one of my teachers. said.- "I never feel nearer to heaven than I do in the presence of a true mother".-

Mother and I.- Mr. Deane. do sympathize with you.- in your

and have advantage.- of being near a place.- where I can hear lectures.- I would like to study biology next year at the University of Chicago.- It would be a help in my work.-

Our plans are not at all definite.- We plan to be at Lauderdale the month of August.- though this same matter may hurry us off.-

sorrow. - How sad but how sweet - to have been with her - around her to the last. -

I was very glad to hear from you again. - I quite share your interest in ornithology. I want so much to know more. - I am out often with my field glass. - and have books upon our common birds. - but I cannot seem to make the bird in the tree match the bird in the book. -

So I cannot name what I see well - but I get a great deal of pleasure out of it. - I am going to take a half dozen field lessons this month. - and see if I can get a better start. - I wish I could be near you. - and go into the woods and fields with you. -

Yes - I have finished my course at Armour Institute. - and I am just ready to begin. - I am in hopes of having a position in Chicago

Mother is very well. We are enjoying our days to-gether. For through the years I was so busy. That through we lived to-gether we were quite separated.

Will has opened a dental office in Chicago and in his letter this morning said: "My first months work far exceeded my expectations."

have a better one. That it hurts me to look at it. But still I want it.

Mother will send the book to you sometime this summer.

This is a rambling letter Mr. Deane. But I want to send it. And want to tell you that I think of you and Mrs. Deane. And hope you will have a very pleasant summer.

Mother joins me in love to Mrs. Deane and yourself.

Very sincerely Martha Bubo

He was quite busy. and at least feels encouraged. The two youngest boys are here. enjoying their vacation. -

Mother wants me to ask you if you would not like to have Father's "willow book". - The one he used and prized. and just before he went west had it bound so it would stand the racket "better" -

Mother says "Mr. Drummond prized it as much as any one". - It is closely associated as you know it must be with Father and we want you to have something that was near to him. -

His microscope is in the room, where I am writing. (for I am in Father's study) tied with cord. Just as he fixed it when he went away -

Mother asked me if I would not like to keep it. - but it is so sad to me to think that Father could never

Rockport, Ill.,
Dec. 1897.

My dear Mr. Drane.

This is the one season of the year that I take the pleasure of letting you know that I think of you—

I am going to send you and Mrs. Drane a picture taken in our back yard by an amateur photographer one day last July.

You may look at it as of me— for we could not keep it. My sister took yours and Mr. Rand's letters from the "correspondence"— at least the "personal" ones— for we felt those belonged only to whom they were sent.— There were a good many of them— and How! much pleasure they always brought.—

I am at home for the holidays and enjoy being in the old home again!

Very sincerely yours,
Martha Reed

and receive the message
it bears with it – my
love and wishes that
you may have a
Happy Christmas – – –
and then you may
fling it away –

My whole being warms
toward you as I
write these lines
and I want to keep
on – My father's
friends: those he loved
will always be dear
to me: and I like to come near to them
I do not suppose you know that
Father's herbarium has just been
sold to the Field Museum – Dr.
Millspaugh was here the first of the
week – packing the plants – and they
will be shipped to-morrow. –

It is very hard to see it go – but
it needed to be where it would
receive the right kind of care – and

My dear Mr. Deane:-

The Calendar with the Christmas Greeting from you added to my happiness on Christmas day - and I will take it to Chicago and hang it in my room - where I will see it each day and enjoy the smil-

really a happy one. -

I shall think of you through the coming year - and wish much happiness to both you and Mrs. Deane. - I want to write some day too. -

Very Sincerely

Martha E. Betts

Dec. 27. 1897 -

980 Grant Ave.

associations -

Yours and Mr. Rand's remembrances make me very happy and at the same time are sad. For they make me want my father to know that your friendship for him was so large that it has included me - and held me. -

We were together - and had a real Christmas tree at home - for the first time since father left. He always thought a great deal of observing the day. - The family together - and we tried to do as we used to - but without children - and without father. We felt something gone - but not one of us said so to the other. - And the day was

Dear Mr. Deane:-

There is one thing I want to ask you in regard to Arthur's taking up the work he has written you of and that is:- of the profession from a practical stand-

---

his heart upon doing - at the same time he cannot afford to give up what he earns to take nothing up. carefully considering the profession from every standpoint. - and although I realize you cannot answer this point.- The success in the material direction depends, of course, upon what he is able to do in it.- At the same time I want to know what you think the general prospects are.- Over average ability.-

He is dependent- upon what he makes. and may be content in the work if he is happy in it.- He has quite a good position for a young man now. but he does not feel it is one worthy of his best energy and is restless.-

I am anxious to have Arthur do what he has set

questions specifically.
I only want to
know what you
think. - I only
hope I am not
troubling you too
much -

Yours very sincerely
Martha Bebb
430 N. Main Street
Kalamazoo
Oct. 17. 1895
Mich.

Kalamazoo
Mich.

My dear Mr. Dean:-

What a kind friend you are:- and how much father would appreciate your effort in our behalf!

You perhaps can guess my position:- as regards my

brothers. - and I
really try to be
equal to the task
of a helpful advisor.
So that they will
come to me often
but because of
my inadequacy
I had to call
upon some one
and it was you;
and I thank
you very much for your
trouble and interest in
responding. - I know what
an added thought is in
a busy life -

Give love to Mrs. Deane

Yours very sincerely
Martha Bett-

Oct-22-1898 430. N. Main St.-

My dear Mr Deane.

I have just read your letter and am so pleased with the thought that I am going to have a book which you selected for me. That I can hardly wait to receive what a friend selects for me in that way.

With love and A Happy New Year. to my dear Mr. and Mrs. Deane.

Martha Bebb
Chicago

Dec 30 - [illegible]

It will be forwarded to me soon - and I know I shall enjoy - the book - and the sweet associations

You are very kind to remember me in this way and I do appreciate it. -

My brothers and I spent Christmas at our sister's (Mrs. Hench) and we had a very pleasant happy day and though we missed mother - we were glad to have been with the other sister. -

I am going to write to you again when I have read my book...... I am always delighted with anything

My dear Mr. Deane:-

The book you sent me:- speaks so truly and tenderly of the one who sent it.. I have read some of the stories and as I read and reread I shall always enjoy the books delightful association with my dear Mr. Deane.-

and am growing to like my own responsibilities and duties realities - as I realize more and more their possibilities:- and am able to realize some of their demands with less friction.- and reckless waste of energy.-

I was very glad to hear from you of Arthur's possible prospects:- He certainly is in love with

The animals do meet a tragic end, but the tales are interesting because they are natural and wholesome — a relief from the overdose of sentimentality which predominate in most stories of the kind —

There is true sentiment in these stories and the sympathy aroused is not forced —

you know. I think, that I was to go back to Kalamazoo this year but not as a kindergartner in actual contact with the children — which I regret.. but to take charge, or general supervision of the work.. which has increased to the extent of a kindergarten in every school district. — I am of course attached to the work the work - and write Mr. and Mrs. Manning - He is determined as you say - and often repeats the quotation "It's dogged that does it" -- We are all very anxious for his success and happiness.-

You have been kind to him too -- we appreciate it and I know he does too.

Our new minister - at the Peoples Church in

directly too.-

With best wishes for Mrs. Deane and yourself..

Very sincerely your friend
Martha Bebb

132 S. Madison Avenue
La Grange,
Ills.

Dec. 29. 1899-

Kalamazoo - Mr. Ernest Smith from Framingham, Mass. - called on me last week to tell me that he had written to Father - and knew you I think, - having met you while attending the Harvard Divinity School - He seems interested in plants birds - and nature in general - without being a specialist of any one branch. - He is more marked as a minister in general bearing, manner and dress - and we all like him very much in the pulpit.

Now - I should like to hear from you - and I know I shall once in a while indirectly - and I hope

[Dec. 1899]

430 W. Main Street
Kalamazoo

My dear Mr. Dean:-

What a delightful surprise: the expressman left at my door a few days ago:- The book is a beautiful one. and just what I shall enjoy reading. and I can make use of

glad father would have been to have wished you a Happy Birthday too..

Let me wish you many more. for my father and myself...

With best wishes for the coming year. to Mrs Dean too -

Sincerely yours
Martha Babb

it in my work too —
you were so kind to
send it to me and I
want to tell you again
how much I appreciate
it:-----

Mr. Rand wrote that
you celebrated recently
your fiftieth birthday
and many people of
note did you honor-

you: whom my father used
to call "among the younger
botanists"!---- I cannot realize
the years are passing: but
how many warm friends
you have gained in those
years!-- Doesn't each added
year bring more pleasure?...
I can only think of how

My dear Mr. Deane:

Arthur writes me that you have very kindly written to him in answer to his letter concerning the course he wants to pursue next year.

I am very grateful to you for helping him in the way that you can. –

for me – but their ambitions for the success of this new undertaking – are hardly in relation to the conditions that have to be met --- I did not like to leave Chicago and get away from the center of kindergarten work – on the other hand I like to be in a quieter place and have done.—

Mr. Deane. where
was I when I last
wrote to you?—I
cannot remember.—
I want to tell you
that I am in
Kalamazoo now. in
charge of the
kindergartens here.
(three in number) and
because of the
universal interest
in their annual "Free Street Fair"
the schools have closed. so it
leaves me to occupy myself
in any way I want. and
being an entire stranger I
am mostly by myself.—and
can read and write and
so keep from being homesick.—

This is a very good opening

and solve my own
difficulties --

Mother goes east
for the winter so you
see our family is
scattered but we all
hope to get to-gether
again at Lauderdale
next summer. -

I should just like
to hear from you
someday - so that -

I may know. I
have not lost track
of you alto-gether -
I should not like
to ever do that. -
Please remember
me to Mr. Rand
when you see him.
and with love to you
and Mrs. Deane -

Your friend
Martha Bebb
430 West Main St.
October the sixth Kalamazoo-Mich

The Faculty and Graduating Classes
of the
Chicago Free Kindergarten Association
invite your attendance
at the
Closing Exercises,
Wednesday afternoon, June sixteenth,
eighteen hundred and ninety seven,
at three o'clock,
Armour Institute Chapel,
Thirty third St. and Armour Ave.

Chicago Free Kindergarten Association

Closing Exercises,

Wednesday, June Sixteenth,

....1897....

...PROGRAM...

* * *

Organ. a. Largo, Handel
b. Marche, Gounod
OTTO W. G. PFEFFERKORN,

Hymn—Worship, C. V. Stanford
CLASSES

Address MISS ANNA E. BRYAN,
Principal Normal Department

PRESENTATION OF DIPLOMAS

H. N. HIGGINBOTHAM,
President Free Kindergarten Association

Songs.
The Shepherd, Arthur Dommervell
Stands a Fair Tree, Hans Schmidt
Lullaby, Gerritt Smith

CLASSES

BENEDICTION

. . ORGAN . .

Names for Diplomas.

Education should lead to peace with nature, self and God.
Froebel.

Estelle Irene Austrian,
Julia Beaumont,
Martha Bebb,
Harriett M. Brown,
Elizabeth N. Church,
Amy F. Elwell,
Jessie Lowe Green,
Evaline May Harrington,
Mally Mabel Harris,
Laura Harris,
Lilly Langhorne Hunter,
Mary M. Hoover,
Mary Katherine James,
Grace Eugenie Levin,
Anna Laura Morrison,
Elizabeth Moss,
Sarah Bertha Murdock,
Charlotte Bond Norton,
Bertha Rundle,
Henriette Roos,
Blanche Schuster,
E. May Smith,
Lena Marguerite Stull,
Jennie C. Towns,
Marion Burtis Webster,
Flora L. Whitmore.

Miss. Bell.

Reference to
Carex Bebbii

Letter of Jan 3 - 1891 -

Good letter to read in
part
Jan. 4, + Dec. 2 / 91

Chicago, Ill
Feb 24th 1886

Mr Walter Deane
My dear Sir —

At the time of my father's death I still had in my hands a specimen of [illegible] which I collected some time ago & saved for father as he desired to mount it in his herbarium. I was of course proud of having found something that he did not have & was much pleased with the idea of adding something to his herbarium. You will remember that he sent fragments to you for identification.

Your letter to him I read at the time & your interest in the plant together with your intimate friendship for my father makes feel that your herbarium would be the most fit place for any specimen intended for my dear Father.

Having heard of you so much through Father it seems strange to me to be addressing you as a total stranger. I hope that some time you may be passing this way & will have the time to make me a visit & spend a day with me in some of my favorite collecting grounds. I am sure we would soon become acquainted if we could get out for a day's tramp & a dinner of corn & potatoes roasted in the sand.

Father took great pleasure in such a days outing.

I send the specimen in this days mail.

Sincerely yours Robert Bebb
1742–102nd Street Chicago Ill

Flower specimen Collected July 26th & sketched root leaf from a belated plant rather stale. Sent a little later.

Collected on R.R. & dock property in Chicago. Has been growing three or four years in succession. R.B.

Chicago Ill
Mar 5th, 1896

My dear Mr Deane -

The sketch of Father's life which you sent me I shall prize very highly as it comes from the hand & pen of one whom he esteemed so highly as a friend. He spoke of you so many times to me yet I never realized until after his death, when I was told, that you had never met face to face but for a few moments.

I felt sorry because it seems as though it would have been a great pleasure to both of you to know the personal side of the other & feel the atmosphere of personal friendship. Father was I think especially great in his love for those he esteemed & the influence of personal [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] was one of the best & most important points.

I am doing a little botanical work in the way of getting my field notes in shape to be of help in a new Flora of this vicinity that is to be published before long.

Yours sincerely
Robert [illegible]

1742 – 102nd street
Chicago
Sub Sta. #8. Ill

1742 W. 102nd Street
Chicago Ill
Mar 18 1900

Mr Greene

Dear Friend,

For some time I have been wanting to know what is best for me to do in regard to adopting all the nomenclature & plants as given in the Britton & Brown flora. I am advised one way & other it [illegible] seems that you [illegible] & [illegible] and [illegible] tell us [illegible] about it, one word [illegible] it being accepted by most of the botanists of this region & it is becoming very confusing for me to work with them. They use only Britton & B. & [illegible] Gray.

I have [illegible] the Britton & Brown [illegible] name & arrange my herbarium by

Grays Manual.

I have been working some at the Field Museum, where Fathers herbarium is, comparing some thing & have been helping them out on the flora of this region by drawing on my duplicates, & I intend to go on helping them to perfect the herbarium in so far as I can by working in this region.

I am surprised to find that the local flora is not more fully & better represented than it is & I feel that I can not do better than help to perfect the herbarium that is largely made up of Fathers life work.

To return to the subject of my letter, I find it so confusing to find every thing arranged so differently & in so many cases named differently that I made up my mind to write to you & ask your opinion as to the adoption of the new system.

I know you will understand why

I come to you with a question of
this kind & hope you will give
me a little free fatherly advice
just as Father would have were he
alive today & saw things as they
are now.

Father thought the new departure
too radical & in many cases
ill considered.

The family are all well
as usual.

Sincerely Yours

Robert Babb

P.S. I enclose some fragments & a
rough out line of an Erigeron that
is troubling me. I have never seen
any thing with the root leaves of this
specimen. If it is strigosus these root
leaves are a long ways from the type.
The fragments are a stem leaf taken
close to the flower heads, some ripe seeds

and one flower. The root leaves are on petioles about 3' long or more & the leaves are some of them broader than this outline.

The specimen I have I collected on the banks of the Penn. Ry. & is the only one I have. Can you give me any light. R.B.

Chicago, Ills.,
Mar 10, 1896.

My Dear Mr. Deane:-

In a letter from Mother, she says that you would be willing to send to any of us a copy of your tribute to our Father. May I kindly ask one of you upon which is written your autograph.

I can not fully express to you my appreciation of the beautiful and sincere tribute you have paid our Father. I know it is written from the heart of one, who shall ever be remembered and associated in my mind as one of my Father's sincerest friends.

Yours sincerely,
Walter S. Bebb.

6349 Stewart Ave.